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COMING CONGRESSES.

We are threatened with two congresses this autumn—one on Roman affairs, to assemble at the invitation of France; the other on the Eastern question, to come together (if the matter can possibly be arranged) at the solicitation of Russia. Roman affairs are really in need of being settled; and it now seems tolerably certain that a congress for discussing, and, if possible, deciding, the Roman question will meet at no distant period.

What a number of contrary and conflicting views will be brought forward! The Roman Government will, we imagine, not be represented at all—or, at least, not in a direct manner. The Pope has always refused to allow his rights to be made a subject of discussion. *Non possumus* is still his only answer to those who call upon him to make concessions, whether to the abstract spirit of the age or to the concrete Government of Italy. Indeed, at Rome Italy continues to be not Italy but Piedmont—as Prussia was not Prussia but only Brandenburg to the French of Frederick the Great's time, and as Russia, in the present day, is not Russia to the Poles but only Muscovy.

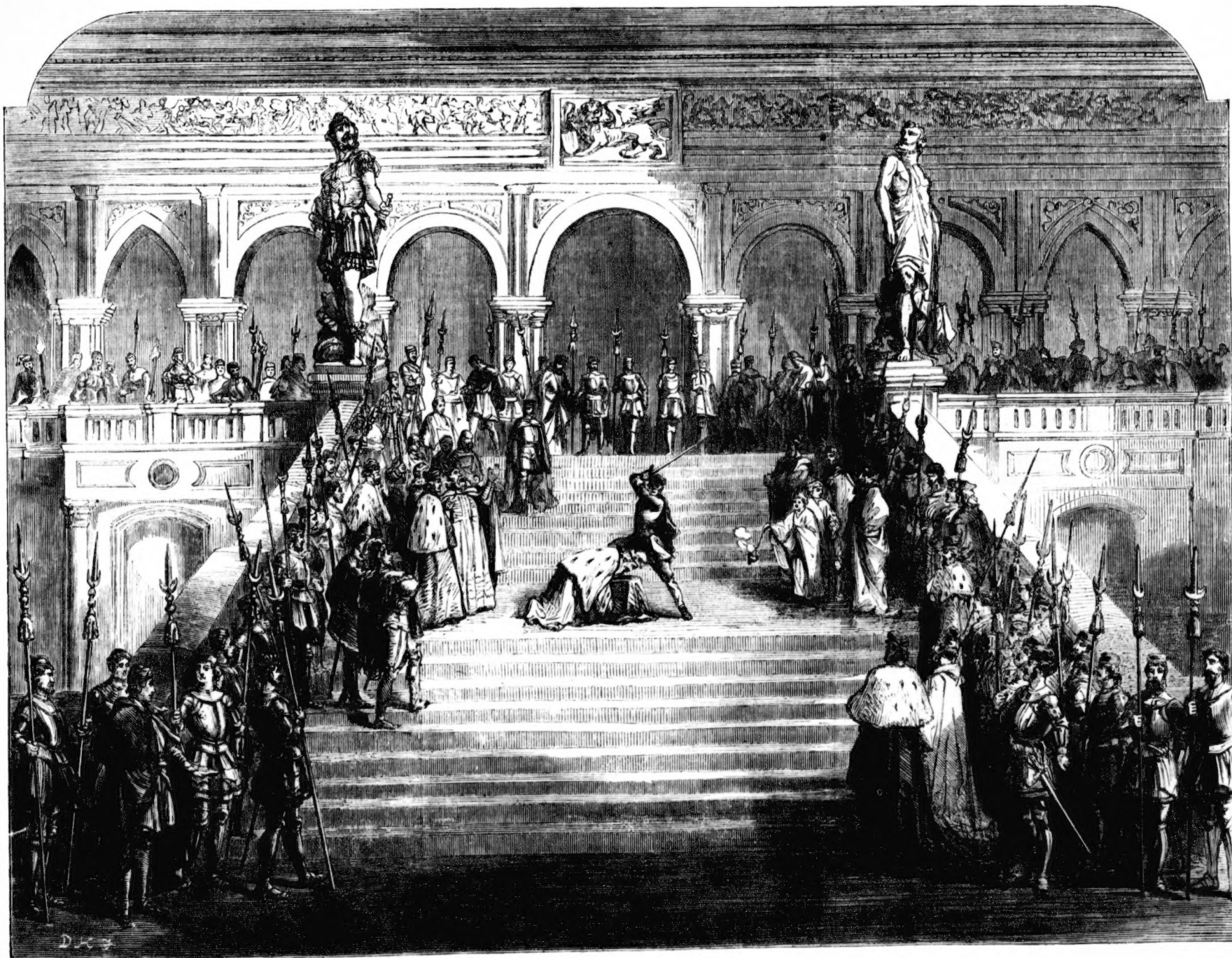
It is a fact that the Roman official journal spoke the other day of the "invasion of the Pontifical territory by the troops of Piedmont." It would seem from this that not one of the great changes which have taken place in Italy since 1859 is recognised by his Holiness. Victor Emmanuel is still the

King of Piedmont, and of Piedmont alone. Magenta and Solferino have not been fought. Lombardy belongs to Austria as much now as it did in 1815. The petty Sovereigns of Tuscany, Modena, and Parma have not been dethroned, and it is a mistake to suppose that the King of Naples has ceased to reign. Seriously, a Power which in the year 1867 calls Victor Emmanuel King of Piedmont, and his troops (from Naples, Lombardy, and Venetia, as well as from Sardinia) "the Piedmontese army," is past arguing with. If a congress really assembles to discuss the Roman question, it may well be hoped that no delegate from the Pope will take part in it.

However, though the Pope himself will not condescend to reason, there are plenty of literary and political Papal volunteers who will be found ready to step forward and plead his cause for him. That cause is nothing more nor less than the cause of stagnation and reaction—stagnation as regards Rome, reaction as regards Italy in general. Rome, say the Papal partisans, must be left as it is; while Italy must be broken up, and, with a view to an ultimate federation, divided among her old oppressors. No more monstrous absurdity can be imagined than the scheme put forward by the French religious journals for replacing Italy in the position she occupied before 1859. It is so probable, for one thing, that the French Emperor would repudiate his own acts; that he would look upon Magenta and Solferino as

unfought, and ask Austria to take back the province of Lombardy, which was wrested from her eight years since; that of Venetia, which, with so bad a grace, she has only just given up, as though of her own accord! Apart from the Treaty of Zurich, which certainly stipulated for a federal organisation in Italy, the Ultramontane journals of Paris maintain that Italy must be divided and weakened, because as long as she remains whole, sound, and strong the Papacy will be in a danger.

The Italians, on their side, hold that Rome must belong to Italy, and that Italy can never feel strong and secure until the kingdom is completed by the annexation of its natural capital. Indeed, the recent intervention of the French at Rome has shown that Italy, until Rome becomes part and parcel of her territory, will always be more or less at the mercy of any foreign allies that the Pope may choose to call upon for assistance, or who may offer to give their assistance without being asked for it. We have, then, on the one hand, the Ultramontanes of all countries, whose ardent desire it is to break Italy like a potter's vessel, so that her strength may never be a source of danger to the Pope; and on the other the Italians of Italy, who wish not to destroy Rome, but to incorporate it with their kingdom, so that their enemies may no longer make use of it as a convenient resting-place from which to attack them. No two views can be conceived more diametrically opposed. The



SCENE FROM "THE DOGE OF VENICE," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE: THE EXECUTION OF FALIERO.

Italians of the kingdom of Victor Emmanuel wish to take possession of Rome; the Romans of the Papal party and the Pope's most strenuous supporters throughout the world wish not to take possession of Italy, but simply to destroy it.

Between these extremes it will be necessary to find some medium, and a happier one than was hit upon three years ago, when the September Convention was signed. The only good that Garibaldi's recent movement has done has been to demonstrate the worthlessness of the said convention and the absolute necessity of revising it. It appears that every country in Europe is to enjoy the right of suggesting its own solution of the Roman difficulty. The recommendations of Protestant States like England and Prussia will probably meet with but little attention; but both Prussia and England have numerous Catholic subjects, whose interests and feelings ought to be taken into consideration equally with the interests and feelings of the population of such small Catholic States as—let us say, Belgium. Even Russia—though Russia, properly so-called, never belonged to the Roman Catholic Church—may be looked upon as a Catholic country, by reason of her seven or eight millions of Catholic subjects in Poland. But, the Catholic subjects of Russia being the sworn enemies of the Government, it is to be presumed that Russia, if she consented to join the congress at all, would watch over the interests of her Catholic subjects with the sole view of injuring them. It will be strange indeed if heretical countries like England, Prussia, and Russia tender advice to the Pope; but it would be stranger still if the Pope were to profit by it.

As for the congress on Eastern affairs proposed by Russia, the invitations may be sent out, but it is not likely that many of them will be accepted. The Roman question is an actual living question, for which it is urgent to find a solution. The Eastern question is one that might be allowed to rest for some time to come, if Russia, and Russia alone, were not bent, at all hazards, on bringing it forward. The only possible answer to the Eastern question, as far, at least, as England is concerned is—wait!

THE "DOGE OF VENICE," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

In adapting "Marino Falieri" to the stage, Mr. Bayle Bernard has sacrificed everything to effect; but in justice it must be owned that many will deem the effect worth the sacrifice. Byron's least dramatic tragedy he has successfully turned into something between a melodrama and an opera, and has contrived to invest it with all the attractions of a sensation play. To achieve his end he has dealt very unscrupulously with a work that cost Byron nearly four years of care and labour; he has mutilated the text, changed the *dramatis personæ*, and—greatest sin of all—has altered the character of the Doge. Out of materials gathered from the four winds, Mr. Bernard has made, perhaps, one of the most successful dramas that have been produced in London for many a year. But the laurels are not his only; his rivals—the machinist and the scene-painter, the musician and the costumer—have claims that cannot be ignored. The applause that rings through the house is evoked by the joint work of all—not merely the literary effort of one. The wonderful carnival scene at the Place of St. Mark presents the delighted audience with a view unsurpassed, nay, unequalled, in these days of beautiful scenic effects. This picture—its moonlit sky, its glistening waters, its fair perspective of illuminated palaces, and light-armed vessels hung with brilliant festoons, its gondolas passing with their flickering lamps, the bewildering throng of maskers, and their glittering costumes, all afford a spectacle that drives the British public into an unwonted frenzy of delight. Second only to this scene is the interior of Leon's palace, with its windows overlooking the Grand Canal. Next to these we would name the interior of the arsenal, and the last great structure—rather than painting—the Giants' Staircase. These effects should make the fortune of the play.

Of the acting of the play at Drury Lane we need not speak, as that has already been characterised by our Theatrical Lounger. The love interest attaching to the character in the present version—and which Byron so sedulously sought to eliminate—is too weak to be effective. The only "point" it gives to the plot is where the dead body of Angiolina's young champion confirms the determination of the Doge to join the conspiracy. The interview between Steno and Angiolina adds but little to the strength of the situation in the second act, and might, without much loss, be cut out. The scene between Bertram and Leon is unwarrantably excised, and the effectiveness of the arrest of Marino is, we fancy, marred by making it take place after the alarm bell has ceased to toll. The splendid exultation of the Doge is thus entirely lost. The fuss about the attempted rescue in the last act may have a theatrical justification, but, to our mind, it spoils the perfect dignity of the final scene. The first act shows the valiant old Doge writhing under the slander that has been cast on his young wife, and writhing still more at the thought of the light sentence that has been passed by the Forty on the offender. We watch him, scene by scene, as he gradually commits himself to conspiring with the populace against the aristocrats who have refused him justice, till at last the murder of his adopted son by a patrician impels him to immediate concurrence in revolution. Like King Agis of Sparta, who leagued with the people to overthrow an oligarchy, Marino Falieri heads the mob to overthrow the tyrannical nobility of Venice. The weakness of one conspirator betrays all, and just as the first peals of the tocsin have gladdened the ears of the Doge, the officers of the Forty enter and arrest him for high treason. His condemnation and decapitation follow, and as the axe is raised to behead him the curtain finally falls.

ADAM SMITH.—A statue of Adam Smith, the author of "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations," is to be erected in the city of Oxford, for the purpose of commemorating his connection with the University. The statue, which has been executed by an Austrian sculptor, has cost £700, and is said to be an excellent likeness.

CADRIDERS AND THE METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC BILL.—A meeting of cabdrivers was held on Tuesday evening, at the Cambridge Hall, to consider the new Metropolitan Traffic Bill. The chair was taken by Mr. J. S. Groves, who said that, considering the meeting which had been held there a short time since by masters representing 4000 plates, he thought that the Act must be repealed, as they were all working together. Not a lamp had been seen by him on a London cab since the Act came into operation, and this gave him great confidence. He feared, however, that the Secretary of State would be less lenient after the new year. Mr. Mann, president of the Cabdrivers' Association, said this matter concerned the drivers as well as the masters. The rules of their society had been altered to meet the views of both master and man. The penalties of this Act fell not on the employer, but the driver. Mr. G. Mann moved a resolution to the effect that the compulsory use of lamps was obnoxious, because in the winter the oil became thick and froze, and would not burn, and the inspection to which they would be liable would be worse and more onerous, as the penalty would fall on the driver, it could not be enforced without great difficulty and loss. This resolution was seconded and passed unanimously. A second resolution, condemning the sixpenny hiring when off the stand as detrimental to the interests of both masters and drivers, was also passed; as well as a third, declaring that it was unjust to legislate against them and not against more dangerous traffic, and pledging the meeting to resist the Act by every means in their power.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

There is a report in Paris that the police have discovered a secret society. Several arrests have been made, but very few particulars are yet known.

The changes in the French Cabinet, so long talked of, are at length announced. M. Pinard is to replace M. de Lavalette as Minister of the Interior, and M. Magne will succeed M. Rouher as Minister of Finance.

Lord Lyons, our new Ambassador in Paris, presented his credentials to the Emperor last Saturday. His Lordship declared that his instructions were to do all he could to maintain and strengthen the friendly relations between Great Britain and France. The Emperor replied most cordially, avowing his sincere attachment to the person and family of the Queen. From the commencement of his reign, he said, one of his most constant objects had been to maintain friendly relations with Great Britain, and he did not doubt that Lord Lyons would help him in this work. He added: "The remembrance of your father, and your personal qualities, assure to you the warmest welcome from us."

SPAIN.

The new budget, to be presented to the Cortes at the commencement of the Session, will show considerable reductions in the expenditure.

Marshal Espartero is ill.

General Lersundi will shortly leave for Cuba, to enter upon the post of Captain-General of that island.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian elections appear to have resulted in a working majority for the Government. The actual supporters of the Government are not in a numerical majority so far as the whole number of the members is concerned; but the other members are divided among at least three parties, who are antagonistic on several important questions.

The proposal for a Conference is practically made a joke of by Prussia at least. It is not impossible that she will consent to take part in it, especially if England raises no objection. But the Prussian Government asks—What is to come of it? What do the Pope and Italy say to it? What are the terms which they, or either of them, would consider a practical and satisfactory settlement of the question in dispute? Count Bismarck knows perfectly well that the whole affair is a farce.

After a long delay judgment has been given in the Prussian courts against Herr Twisten, who was tried some time since for the speech he made in the Chamber of Deputies on the subject of the administration of justice in Prussia. According to English ideas the prosecution was a very arbitrary proceeding, and the sentence of two years' imprisonment appears excessive and vindictive.

At a general assembly of the National Verein, on Monday, the dissolution of the Union was decided on. It was resolved that out of the funds of the Union the sum of 106,580 fl. should be handed over to the administrative department of the North German navy; 2000 fl. to the German Society for saving Life in Shipwrecks; 1000 fl. to the Marine School at Hamburg; and 100 thalers to the German Legal Protection Society in London.

AUSTRIA.

It is stated that the formation of a responsible Parliamentary Ministry is near at hand. Prince Carlos Auersperg is expected to be President of the Council, Baron Hasner Minister of Public Instruction, Dr. Berger Minister of Justice, and Herr Giskra Minister of Commerce, while Baron Becker retains the portfolio of Finance for the Cis-Leithan provinces. Baron Sennyey, the Hungarian Tavernicus, is spoken of as the Finance Minister of the empire.

TURKEY AND CRETE.

The Vienna press asserts that the Porte in its note replying to the four Powers on the subject of Candia, after drawing their attention to the recent proclamation of the Grand Vizier to the Cretans, declares that the Turkish Government is fully prepared to assume the responsibility for its own acts, and desires nothing more than that the Powers in future should refrain, as they had promised, from every kind of interference in the Candian question.

Intelligence from Athens to the 3rd inst. announces the return of the two Greek volunteer leaders, Coronos and Petropoulaky, from Candia, the Cretans no longer requiring their services. The insurrection was being carried on with great activity. The Greek steamer Union was still making voyages to the island with provisions and munitions for the islanders; and Russian, French, Prussian, and Italian vessels continued to transport families to Greece.

THE UNITED STATES.

The President has appointed Nov. 28 as a day of thanksgiving and prayer.

John Gilmer, a prominent citizen of Richmond, has formally protested against the recent election in Virginia, on the grounds that Colonel Rose, the superintendent, connived at frauds, and that the election was illegally prolonged and not conducted in conformity with the requirements of the Reconstruction Act. General Schofield replied that the conduct of Rose should be investigated and the question of the legality of the election referred to the Convention. Gilmer further protested against this decision, the Convention being Radical. Several prominent citizens have been ordered to leave Richmond by the Coloured Vigilance Committee for speaking disrespectfully of Mr. Hunnicutt and discharging negro Radical employees. Armed negroes guard Hunnicutt's house, who asserts that he is threatened with assassination.

The Southern press generally predicts a war of races. The Southerners are urging the President to increase the national military force in the South, in order to overawe the negroes, who, well armed, meditate a general insurrection. President Johnson has referred the recent reports relative to the apprehended negro insurrection in the South to the War Department, and the subject will be considered at a Cabinet meeting. The military force in the South will probably be increased, and the district commanders instructed to prevent the arming of the negroes.

Clarksville, Bagdad, Brownsville, and other towns of Texas have nearly been destroyed by the recent storms. Many lives have been lost, and in Matamoros 1500 houses have been blown down.

MEXICO.

Advices from Vera Cruz to the 24th ult. state that an opposition party is agitating to cause the impeachment of Juarez, and that the Opposition will have the majority in the New Mexican Congress. Juarez has received a congratulatory letter from the Spanish General Prim.

ST. DOMINGO.

It is reported that war has broken out between San Domingo and Hayti—that is to say, that portion of the island the conquest of which was recently attempted by Spain, has declared war against the independent Republic of Hayti, which itself has only just passed through the ordeal of a revolution.

THE DANISH JOURNALS contradict the announcement of the death of the Countess Danner, morganatic wife of the late King Frederick VII.

THE SHEFFIELD SAWMAKERS.—The Sawmakers' Union of Sheffield has now followed in the evil steps of the Sawgrinders' Union in becoming accessory after the fact to attempt to blow up Fearneough and his family. One Thomas Smith was secretary of the Sawmakers' Union at the time of the outrage, and before the Special Commission of Inquiry he confessed that he had paid Broadhead £7 10s. as his society's share of the "expenses" of the job. This was unknown to the society at the time, and after the fact came out Smith resigned his office and another secretary was appointed. He has now made an appeal to the union to be exempted from the operation of the ninth rule, which provides that men out of employ shall receive scale of twelve weeks only. Smith represented that in consequence of being concerned in the outrage manufacturers refused to employ him, and therefore he thought he ought not to come under the rule. The society thought so too, and decided to allow him full scale so long as he remained out of work. This is virtually an annuity.

NATIONAL SCHOOL HISTORY.

(From the "Pall Mall Gazette.")

AMONG the numberless school histories of England extant there is one which is worth notice for reasons which will presently appear. It is not a new book—the first edition appeared in 1845; but it has been frequently reprinted since. It bears no imposing name, nor does it assume to clear up obscurities or to settle disputed points. It is a very brief summary, intended for children. But, being one of the books approved by the Committee of Council on Education for use in National Schools—one of the books which it supplies these schools at reduced prices, and which, therefore, since 1845 has had some share in forming the mind of the present generation—it derives from that fact an importance which justifies us, especially at this juncture, in bestowing some attention upon it.

The book is entitled "English History for Children," by the Rev. J. M. Neale, M.A., Warden of Sackville College, East Grinstead. "The object of the following pages," says the preface, "is to give children a Churchman's view of the history of his own country, and, if it might be, to secure a correct first impression on their minds." Whether the Committee of Council was justified in adopting a book avowedly written in a partisan spirit, and in putting its official stamp on the views it enunciates, is a matter on which there will be very little difference of opinion so soon as we have shown what are the "correct first impressions" which Mr. Neale desires to impress on the juvenile mind.

There are events in our history of which we are all proud, and characters of which we all think with reverence. Magna Charta, Lord William Russell, Hampden, and the Revolution are "household words" with us; and whatever difference of opinion might exist among Englishmen concerning the Reformation, Luther, and Calvin, we really thought that there could be none whatever about them. We fancied, too, that "the divine right of kings to govern wrong" was a doctrine of the past. Nor did we suppose there existed a clergyman of the Church of England who would venture to teach as great evils the loss of such "rights of the Church" as inordinate wealth, temporal power, and the impunity of the priesthood from civil law. It seems, however, that, in common with many others, including the whole body of English historians, we have been reading history the wrong way; or assuredly the Committee of Council would not countenance the exhibition of Queen Elizabeth, of William III., of Milton, and the great mass of the Puritans as villains; while "Bloody Mary," her namesake of Scotland, Claverhouse, and James II. are eulogised as choice heroes and examples of unappreciated goodness. We must let the author speak for himself on these and similar points:—

Magna Charta, page 79. "A great deal of nonsense has been written and spoken about this charter; and it is generally called the foundation of our liberties. It is so in a certain sense; and there is a great lesson which I want you to learn from it. You will sometimes hear persons in these days say that all real authority comes from the people. It is not so: all authority in civil matters comes directly from the Queen, and through her from God. In the case we speak of, the Barons had not the power to make Magna Charta: King John only had authority to sign it."

Parliament, Edward I., page 92. "By this time the Constitution was much the same as now; except that in the House of Lords there were few temporal noblemen and many more spiritual peers. For not only did the Bishops sit in Parliament, but also the abbots of the larger houses, who were called mitred abbots, because they wore mitres, and sometimes lords abbots. By this you may see how very unfairly the Church has been dealt with; for while the temporal or lay noblemen have been very much increased, the spiritual peers have been much diminished."

James I., page 191. "Disputes soon began between James and his Parliament, in which the Parliament was always clearly in the wrong. They wanted to obtain the power which they afterwards did obtain, and which they have now, but to which, according to our original Constitution, they had no right."

Concerning Prince Henry, who was commonly regarded as the Lope of England, the author makes the following Christian observation:—"In 1612 James lost his eldest son, Henry. This was a blessing to the Church, for he was a Puritan at heart."

It is scarcely possible to make extracts capable of giving an idea of the manner in which the reign of Charles I. is described. Charles, his Ministers, and his conduct are invariably praised, and his opponents invariably condemned. Then, at page 197, we are told that "the Commons did not do their duty in supplying his wants." Page 198, "In 1629 the Parliament began to show a very bad spirit."—"Charles dissolved this Parliament, and the conduct of the Commons at its end was almost treasonable." The riot caused by the reading of the Prayer-book at Edinburgh is called "a wicked outrage." And the Covenant is denounced as "a solemn act of schism and rebellion." The war between the King and the Parliament is deplored as "a war the effects of which we are sadly feeling to this day." "Hampden was slain miserably;" that "miserably" being a most characteristic touch of cant. Fairfax was "the best of a wicked company;" Cromwell was "one of those fearful characters to whom God sends a strong delusion that they should believe a lie;" and Pym, Bastwick, and Burton were men who "had written seditious and profane books against the Church," and who "were punished for this offence by having their ears cut off, standing in the pillory, paying a large fine, and being imprisoned for life. These wicked men were looked on as martyrs." As for the Revolution, "this was a fatal blow to the English Constitution, and had nearly been the ruin of our Church." The remarks made on the American revolt are also well worthy of notice:—"As England had been at great expense during this war, it was thought fit that the North American colonists should contribute their share. This the Americans wickedly resisted, and their spirit towards the mother country became worse and worse. It was in a great measure the fault of England. We were right in the dispute; but we had been fearfully wrong in not supplying those vast regions with Bishops."

The prominent characters of history are dealt with just as its greater events are. Wickliffe "taught many errors and little truth." Luther "was enraged that the sale of indulgences was taken away from his own order, because they were thought to have kept back part of the money arising from it. Some things he said were true, but many more were false and unjustifiable; he used most harsh and vile language to his superiors. He had made a vow of never marrying, as all monks had done; he wickedly broke this and persuaded a nun to break hers and marry him." Lord Cromwell was "beheaded by a just punishment for his share in the matter of the abbey lands." Mary Tudor's "conscientiousness, kindness of heart, love to the poor (whom she took pleasure in relieving under a disguise), and restitution to the Church of the property her father had taken from it for his own use, deserve much praise." "Her Court was a model of purity; her sister Elizabeth's was a perfect one of wickedness. In short, her goodness was her own; her faults those of her advisers." As for some of Mary's victims, no "honest man could have held the see of Canterbury during the time he (Cranmer) held it." Ridley preached rebellion at Paul's Cross; and Lady Jane Grey, who, according to our author, is falsely said to have been averse to her proclamation as Queen, was put to death because Mary's "most remarkable gentleness" in the conspiracies which attended her exaltation to the throne had been misunderstood, and "it was now necessary to make an example." The greater part of the space devoted to Elizabeth's reign is absorbed by a vindication of the character and a display of the sufferings of Mary of Scotland, who, as Mr. Neale says, "could not conceive a more happy end to her imprisonment than the shedding her blood for her religion." The whole story of that reign in Mr. Neale's book is avowedly a summary of Elizabeth's crimes. She ordered the bishops—who, "to their eternal honour, all refused but Kitchen"—to take the oath of supremacy; she laid hold on the best of their lands before she allowed their successors to enter on their sees; she persecuted and murdered her cousin; she cruelly persecuted the Roman Catholics (Mary's persecution of the Protestants is excused, extenuated, all but justified); she assisted—"one of the worst actions of her life"—the Huguenots; she aided the Dutch rebels; she intrigued against James of Scotland; and her character is summed up by attributing to her, besides "all the faults of the Tudors," indecision, vanity, perfidiousness, and cruelty—altogether her own.

Mr. Neale's book also teaches that the two Jameses were excel-

lent men, and their opponents the very reverse. Russell and Sydney, "who have sometimes been called patriots, are now known to have been bribed to do what they did." That John Milton wrote "Paradise Lost" is "a remarkable proof that it does not always please God to bestow the greatest gifts on good men; for Milton had written a defence of the murder of Charles the Martyr." James II. is praised for his hatred of deceit, his brotherly love, and "his zeal for what he thought the only true Church;" and though Judge Jeffries, bad as he was, merely "imitated the proceedings of Queen Elizabeth's Judges after the northern rebellion," "his conduct is said to have been displeasing to James." Of course Mr. Neale makes no apology for William III. His misdeeds are placed in the strongest relief. "He ordered the family of the Macdonalds to be murdered in cold blood;" he lavished English blood and treasure in selfish quarrels; he originated the National Debt; and, being altogether "a bad and cold-hearted man, did more harm to England, both in politics and religion, than we have yet been able to recover."

We have little space for further extract from this faithful epitome of English history—this instructive manual for youth; but we cannot abstain from quoting a sentence or two to show the author's notions on ecclesiastical points. He remarks:—"Money or property of any sort taken away from the Church is always a curse; and I will tell you why it is. In ancient times, when a church was founded, a solemn curse was pronounced by the Bishop who consecrated it against such as should dare to take any of its possessions to his own use; and it has pleased God remarkably to fulfil that curse to the present day." Mr. Neale also says, "Where there is no succession of Bishops from the Apostles there can be no Church." He calls the dissolution of monasteries "a blow from which the Church of England has never recovered," and "a fearful robbery of God," while he declares that "the money which arose from this fearful sacrilege brought a curse with it." He informs little children that "Presbyters pretending to consecrate presbyters is a thing equally profane and foolish," and he denounces the suppression of the Irish bishoprics as another Church robbery.

While the author is careful in branding with the strongest censure all that he dislikes, he uses to the utmost his natural dexterity in bringing before the reader matters that he dare not praise. Existing prejudices are too strong for him to venture on absolute approval of the negotiation carried on between Laud and the Pope in the time of Charles I., or of the Romanising efforts of James II., and therefore he summarises these matters with what would be impartiality in another writer. But Mr. Neale is so given to vituperation where he does not love that the moment he refrains from it we feel that we must accept the abstention as a token of approval. Indeed, a writer like this is can be guilty of little greater partiality than by relating an incident, or drawing a character, soberly; and this is particularly apparent in the comparatively lengthened accounts which he gives of Becket and the "Gunpowder Plot," and in the elaborate apology which he ventures for the persecution of the Lollards.

In fine, this little book would have been creditable to a virulent Jesuit of the sixteenth century; but it does no credit to the judgment of those who included it among the books to be supplied to the National Schools of England at reduced prices. And, considering the mischief it is calculated (we use the word in its widest sense) to do, and must have done—for the copy before us has been used as a class book in a National School—we think it worth some trouble to find out how it came to obtain the sanction of the Committee of Council on Education, and when.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS sailed from Liverpool for the United States on Saturday morning in the Cunard mail-steamship Cuba.

THE HURRICANE AT ST. THOMAS.—The telegram received from Havannah communicating the intelligence of the fearful devastation by the hurricane at St. Thomas, set forth that five steamers were lost, but only gave the names of two, the Rhone and the Wye, Royal West Indian mail-steamers. On Tuesday a telegram arrived with information that the Colombian steamer, belonging to the West India and Pacific Steamship Company, was also wrecked at St. Thomas during the recent hurricane, involving a loss on the London, Liverpool, and Glasgow underwriters to the extent of a quarter of a million sterling. Her passengers and crew were more fortunate than those of the ill-fated Rhone; for all were saved. It is said she lies sunk in 24 ft. of water, and may possibly be raised, for which purpose a steamer will leave Liverpool immediately with divers and machinery to attempt it. The Colombian sailed from Liverpool on Oct. 13, and must have arrived at St. Thomas the day she was due, the day of the hurricane. Some doubts have been entertained whether she was the steamer that was lost, or that it was the Columbia, known to be near the same spot at the time, which led to some speculation, and even up to noon on Wednesday, underwriters were accepting lines on the West Indian Colombian at the rate of 80 per cent. Several lines were taken at 70 per cent. Before the loss was known in England, there was some apprehension about her, as 10, 12, and 13 per cent. were being paid to effect insurances upon her. The excitement to obtain particulars of the other two steamers and the fifty ships reported lost in the hurricane is very great. Increased premiums are demanded to insure all vessels known to be in the West Indian Islands during the storm.

FENIAN MENACES.—The *Cork Examiner* of Monday published the following letter, which, it remarks, "bears internal evidence of its genuineness":—"Sir, I presume the readers of your valuable journal have no doubt as to the Government hanging those men unfairly convicted at Manchester for the murder of the policeman Brett. If so, I advise the Government to look before they leap, for fear they should repent when too late. All I say is, the night that succeeds the day they are to hang will see every town and city in England on fire; and it will be no small fire either, Mr. Editor, for there will be a good many in each town. I need not tell you we have a goodly set of Fenians in each town. It is very easy to carry a few bottles for the work in their pockets. They have only to dash one through a window, and the inside is in a blaze. Some of our English merchants will curse the hanging business, and wish that they were hung instead themselves. Kelly said, 'We will have an eye for an eye;' and so we are determined. The Government think they can quieten us by hanging a few. I tell them if they hang 20,000 the remainder will be their enemies when the opportunity permits. We want none of their favours. Nothing short of a clear separation will please us, and that, thank God, we hope to have before long. It would hunt our weapons very much if we accept any of their treacheries. Mr. Editor, I was two months ago a loyal man; now I am a WICKED FENIAN." A New York journal announces the arrival in that city of Deasey, one of the two men who were rescued by Allen and his confederates. A rather curious and not quite credible account is given of the manner in which Kelly and Deasey contrived to baffle the police after their rescue. Deasey is said to have crossed the Atlantic in the City of Paris, joining the ship at Liverpool, and being assisted with his luggage by Kelly, who was disguised as a porter. Kelly, it is asserted, remains in this country, being charged with the functions—this, of course, is meant to be a dreadful threat—of "inspector of British commerce and shipping." The New York correspondent of a *Cork* journal mentions a report, which he apparently believes, that the British shipping in New York is to be fired in the event of the execution of any of the condemned convicts.

BENEFIT SOCIETIES IN RURAL DISTRICTS.—A paper was read at the last meeting of the Farmers' Club, by Mr. Charles Howard, of Biddenham, near Bedford, on a subject of great importance, not only to agriculturists, but to the entire nation. The discussions at this club are, as Mr. Howard, began by remarking, of interest mainly to the farmer; but on this occasion the welfare of the labourer was more immediately considered. From a mass of correspondence and statistics on the subject of benefit clubs, Mr. Howard was enabled to point out pretty clearly the superiority of county as opposed to village societies. He dwelt on the known evils of the public-house system, showing that for every shilling paid to the fund, from threepence to sixpence found its way into the till of the landlord. The great success of some of the benefit societies of Wiltshire, Essex, and other parts of the country was in great measure brought about by the encouragement given by the local gentry and by farmers, in becoming honorary and even ordinary members, and in superintending the management and administration of the funds. The rules in these cases had been certified by Mr. Tidd Pratt, whose authority was quoted to show that in the 25,000 benefit clubs of this country those which are soundly constituted may be reckoned, not by thousands nor by hundreds, but by tens. The smaller societies are often got up by publicans. Some of these village clubs would begin well; but the funds failed as they advanced, and were not made up by accessions of younger men. Then, when it became obvious that the club must fail, the members would divide the cash in hand among themselves, and start a fresh club, to be joined by young men, and, to secure their funds, would refuse admission to aged members of the old society. Mr. Howard recommended the organising these clubs and extending them over county or quarter-sessions districts; and he also advised that their rules should in all cases be certified by Mr. Tidd Pratt. He threw out a suggestion, as well, that the post-office savings banks might be made available, as a machinery ready to hand; and said he thought it worth the consideration of Government in what manner these institutions could aid in granting allowances in time of sickness.

TERRIBLE COLLIERY EXPLOSION IN WALES.

THE most serious calamity that ever befel South Wales in the shape of colliery explosions happened, on Friday, the 8th inst., at Ferndale Colliery, situated at the top of the Rhondavach valley, a small dingle branching out of the Rhondavach valley, at Porth, on the Taff Vale Railway, and extending for about five miles by railway, but more than that by the highway. It is a large colliery, belonging to Messrs. Davis and Son, the great coal-owners of Aberdare, and gives employment to 300 hands, men and boys. The pit was sunk about eight years ago to the 4-ft. seam, which is the famous Merthyr steam-coal, at 300 yards from the surface, and the output is very considerable. It has communication with Cardiff by the Taff Vale Railway; but being at the top of the valley, and alone, with the population entirely dependent upon it, there is no passenger-train service, and consequently it is difficult of access, the road or rather route from Aberdare being simply a beaten path over a steep and rugged mountain. The nearest railway station is five miles off. The village is of mushroom growth, having sprung up with the colliery. There are now about 250 houses, including a considerable number of wooden shanties of the American type, but better constructed, and far more comfortable. Every house is inhabited, and most householders have lodgers, the gross population of the village being about 800. The village is named after the colliery, Ferndale, though it is better known in the locality as Blaenllechan. The little village has been plunged into mourning by one of the saddest events that ever befel the district. On Friday morning week, and for several mornings previously, there had been a dense fog, so dense in fact that nothing could be seen a few yards off, and this heavy condition of the atmosphere had its deleterious effect upon the ventilation of the mine. About 170 men and boys went down to work on that morning, but it does not appear that any misgivings were entertained as to the safety of the pit, and things went on as usual until shortly after one o'clock, when a frightful explosion of firedamp took place, and in an instant the whole pit was in a blaze. The blast swept along the main drift, and extended into all the workings. The men at the bottom of the shaft—those employed to hitch the trams on the cage—were blown away, two of them being killed, and the third escaping in the most extraordinary manner without much injury. The blast then ascended the shaft with a tremendous roar, and drove the men at the top from their posts. It was at once evident that there had been a great explosion, and messengers were sent off for the proprietors, and to neighbouring pits for assistance. The report spread like wildfire, and it was not long before the pit's mouth was besieged by an anxious and excited crowd of people who had friends in the mine. It was impossible to go down immediately after the explosion, but as soon as the air had cleared an exploring party descended, and returned with the intelligence that the workings had been terribly damaged and the ventilation interrupted. Measures were then taken for carrying the air forward, and after a painful delay several bodies were found, including that of Mr. Williams, the manager of the pit, who was amongst the killed. It was found that enormous falls had been caused by the explosion, and often the communication was entirely cut off by rubbish, which had to be removed before the bodies could be got at. The clearance of these falls occasioned a vast amount of delay and a corresponding amount of distressing suspense to the friends of the hapless workmen at the bank. At five o'clock only twenty bodies had been recovered, and, although working parties were incessantly engaged in exploring the workings, up to five o'clock last Saturday morning only fifty-three had been got out. Of those four or five were alive, but in such an awful condition that some of them have since died. There then remained 120 in the workings behind the falls, but unhappily the falls were so great and the air so foul that they could only be cleared with the greatest possible difficulty and danger. The air at the face of the rubbish was so bad that for hours together the workmen were obliged to grope in the dark, it being impossible to carry a light through so much carbonated hydrogen as exists. A brattice was erected, and even with this it was impossible to obtain a clear current to the front. On Saturday night a search party from the Duffin district of the mine (which is reached by a separate pit, and which appears to have escaped the explosion) were exploring some of the main roads, when they found a man in an exhausted state, but otherwise unhurt. The ventilating furnace was relighted on Monday morning, a course of action considered somewhat perilous, but no bad results followed. A large number of bodies have been recovered; but others are still known to be in the mine.

The blow has fallen with dreadful effects upon some families. In one house a father and four sons lay stretched out; and in another, of six that went to work in the morning only one returned alive, and he was badly hurt. In half the houses which were visited by the coroner and jury last Saturday the victims lay in pairs; and in other houses the women were waiting, with woe-begone countenances, the arrival of the corpses of their relatives from the pit. Hardly one house out of three will escape this awful visitation; and, as the workpeople there have gathered from the Merthyr and Aberdare districts chiefly, the excitement in those two towns is immense. At most of the homes of the deceased there was much poverty and physical suffering apparent; in some cases the bodies lay on the floor, covered with sacks, just as they came from the pit.

As to the cause of the accident it would be hazardous to give an opinion, it being utterly impossible as yet to say where the gas fired.

MORE COLLIERY ACCIDENTS.

MOORESELY DOWN PIT, DURHAM.—A large group of collieries are wrought in the Wear household coal district by the Hetton Coal Company, and one of them, Moorseley Down pit, is situated about half a mile from the village of Hetton, in the county of Durham. There are two shafts in the pit—Appleton Jane, or down-cast; and the Caroline, or up-cast shaft. The Appleton Jane is something over 160 fathoms deep, the Hetton seam being wrought about forty fathoms from the bottom, an intake communicating with the Caroline pit. There was the usual woodwork, frame pulleys, wooden screens, cabin, &c., at bank. Wednesday night week was cold and gusty in the north, and the men employed at the bank had lighted a fire near the screens, and it is supposed that some of the burning coals had been thrown among the woodwork, for about two o'clock it was discovered that the screens and gearing were on fire. The first call of the first shift of the pitmen were all in the mine at the time; and when one of the overmen had gone down the pit about that hour, he found all the men in the greatest alarm from the smoke and stythe blowing in among them. A smart breeze fanned the fire into a blaze, and the screens and woodwork were soon in flames, lighting the country round. The pit "buzzer" was sounded, and pitmen flocked in from the neighbourhood. Two small fire-engines were brought into play, but the fire burnt fiercely, lighting sixteen waggons of coal, which were standing hard by. The down-cast current of air took clouds of smoke down into the workings of the pit, and great anxiety was felt for the safety of the men and lads, about 200 in number, below. There was a communication, however, between the pit and the Hetton Colliery—again showing the immense importance of having more than one means of egress from a mine, in case of accidents—and the bulk of the men and lads were got out by the Hetton shaft; but, on making a muster, it was found that several men were missing, and a party (including Mr. Lindsey Wood, of Hetton Hall, one of the partners, Mr. Hippelwhite, Mr. Peter Spooner, and others) went down the pit in quest of them. They proceeded down the Caroline shaft, and in searching the intake they found the missing men, five in number. The back overman, Robert Thompson, was lying in a dying state close to the edge of the shaft. The other men were suffering severely from the effects of the stythe and smoke driven into the pit. They were all speedily sent to bank, but Thompson died soon after he was taken to his residence, Caroline-street, Hetton. Hill, one of the other men, is seriously ill. Between twenty and thirty of the other men and lads brought to bank up the Hetton shaft were very ill from the effects of the smoke and gas, and several of them were insensible. The fire continued to rage for hours, and all the standing gear, with the sixteen waggons of coal at the Jane pit, were destroyed.

HOMER-HILL COLLIERY, STOURBRIDGE.—An accident has also occurred at the Homer-Hill Colliery, a few miles from Stourbridge, by which a number of lives were placed in peril. The colliery belongs to Messrs. S. Evers and Son, and the mine has been worked hitherto without much sulphur being met with. The overlooker went down the mine at half past five a.m., and looked round the workings, but did not perceive any foul air. The men and boys, to the number of between forty and fifty, then went down to their work, and all went well for some time. Suddenly a quantity of rubbish gave way, and this released some gas, the explosion of which was

caused by coming in contact with the flame of the candles which the men were using at their work. In the part where the casualty happened there were about forty men and boys at work, and of these sixteen were injured. It was an hour before the men were got out of the mine, the cage being disarranged by the occurrence, and in the mean time hundreds of people flocked to the mouth of the pit in a state of the greatest excitement. Most of those injured were suffering from burns, and various necessities were at once provided for meeting the emergency.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE INSPECTORS OF MINES.

THE record of the accidents and explosions which unhappily signalled 1866 gives to the report just issued a kind of tragical interest. The number of men and boys employed in the collieries of England and Scotland amounted last year to 320,663, and one hundred million tons of coal were raised by their labours. Yet no fewer than 1184 lives were lost; and, if the gentlemen who discharge the arduous and frequently dangerous duties of inspectors of mines are to be believed, a very large number of the 857 accidents which occurred might have been avoided by the exercise of caution and foresight. There are 3192 collieries in Great Britain; and of these Yorkshire contains 434; North and East Lancashire, 265; South Staffordshire and Worcestershire, 544; and South Wales, 338. The pre-eminence in fatalities belongs to Yorkshire, in which the Oaks Colliery, where, on the 12th of December last, 331 out of a total of 340 persons working were killed by the terrific explosion, which for years to come will be remembered with so much horror by the inhabitants of the district. On the following day twenty-three persons out of an exploring party of twenty-eight, led by the late Mr. Parkin Jeffcock, also perished, and the result of the series of explosions was that it became necessary to close the pit, and that the bodies of Mr. Jeffcock and his companions were only recovered the other day. Mr. Dickinson's report points out that, except in the magnitude of the disaster, the explosion differed in no respect from other accidents of the same character. There had been a considerable accumulation of gas, and the ordinary discharge of firedamp in the mine was exceedingly large. The inspector thinks that there is no need of supposing that there had been any extraordinary outburst, and he shows the injurious effect which must have resulted from a sudden diminution of atmospheric pressure which took place on the day of the accident. There is no evidence to explain how the firedamp became ignited. It is just possible that it may have happened by the breaking of a lamp, but it is perfectly established that the explosion took place immediately after a "shot" had been fired, containing an unusual amount of powder, which Mr. Dickinson thinks may have disturbed the accumulated gas. He believes that there was no want of care and discipline in carrying on the work, and that the arrangements for ventilation were as perfect as possible, but objects to the system employed in the Oaks Colliery, as tending to cause a large accumulation of gas, especially in a district where the seam of coal is so notoriously "fiery" as at Barnsley. The report contains several suggestions as to the improvement of present systems of mining, which deserve the careful attention of mining engineers.

The colliery accident at Pelton, on Oct. 31, 1866, is reported by another inspector. Thirty lives were lost. The mine had always been considered a safe one, there being a very small accumulation of gas and firedamp. The accident seemed to have occurred through the falling of a sheet, or of some portion of the roof, and the only fact worthy of notice is the circumstance ascertained by scientific experiment, that an explosive current of firedamp and atmospheric air moving at the velocity of eight feet per second will be ignited by the flame of an ordinary Davy lamp. From the West Lancashire and North Wales district Mr. Higson reports two serious explosions, that at the High-brook mine, attended with a loss of thirty lives; and at Garswood, where twelve persons were burned or suffocated. Dealing with individual accidents, Mr. Higson states that in his own district forty lives were lost by disobedience, want of discipline, and negligence on the part of miners; fifty-two by accidents which could not have been avoided, and fifty-nine owing to circumstances which better management could have prevented. Mr. Wynne reports two of the most fatal explosions of the year—those at the Victoria pit, Dukinfield, in the South Staffordshire district; and at Talk-o'-th'-Hill. In the former instance thirty-eight lives were lost, owing, as Mr. Wynne states, to want of forethought on the part of the manager. The gas had got into the horse-road, where there were open lights. Ten minutes, according to the inspector, would have cleared the gas off, but no attempt was made to do so, and the verdict of the jury was, without attaching the crime of manslaughter to the manager, that the accident was due in a large measure to negligence and incompetence. The explosion at Talk-o'-th'-Hill would have been the most fatal of the year but for the occurrence in the same week of the fearful catastrophe at the Oaks. Ninety-one lives were lost, and some extraordinary facts were deposited to on the inquest. The men appear to have smoked without hindrance, to have used false keys for their Davy lamps, and to have had imperfect lamps. One of the principal witnesses, skilled in the management of mines, stated that the ventilation was imperfect, the discipline lax, that "shots" were fired by anyone, at any time, that men were allowed to go where gas had accumulated, and lamps were lighted in the return air.

The notice of this bluebook, which contains most important and interesting reports, and is illustrated by plans of the mines in which accidents and explosions occurred, is best summed up in the words of Mr. Higson:—"Mining, under any circumstances is always attended with danger, more, perhaps, than any other occupation which a labourer follows. Yet, of all others, the miner seems to think the least about it; he sees or hears of explosions destroying hundreds at a time, of falls of roof upon fellow-workmen or assistants, of inbursts of water inundating a whole pit, of ropes breaking while suspending a living freight, of boilers bursting and causing the loss of many a valuable life; and still he pursues his daily calling, and relies for all necessary protection on those in charge of the works. On finding anything wrong in his place of work, he may, perhaps, mention it to the underlooker or fireman when he meets with him, but he seldom makes communications to the owner or principal agent, and never to the Inspector of Mines."

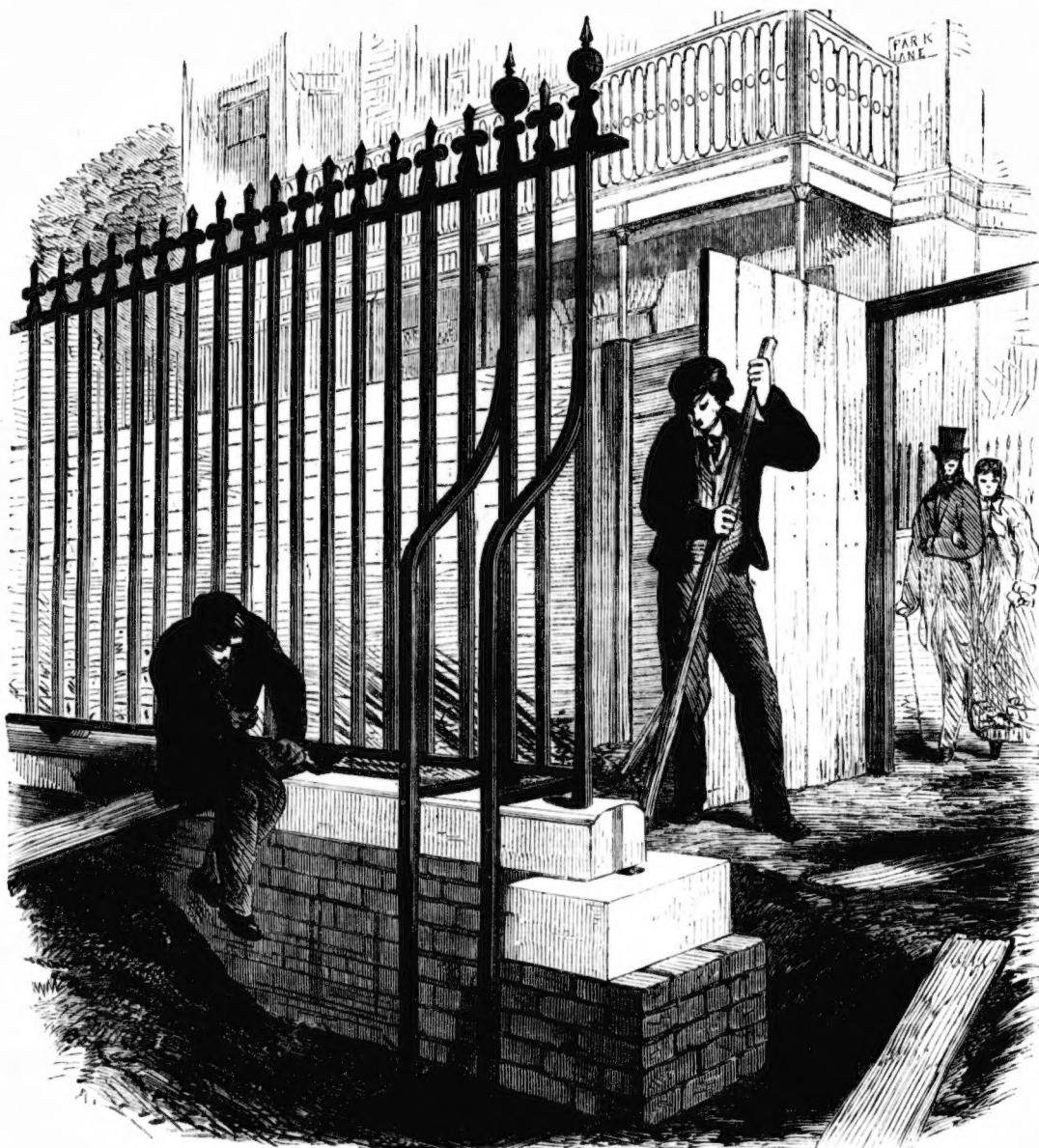
THE OAKS COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—Mr. Dickinson, the inspector of this colliery, in his report, just issued, states that the seam of coal known as the Barnsley bed is about 8 ft. thick, and notoriously fiery; and that the cause of the explosion was clearly attributable, in his opinion, to the system upon which the colliery was worked. The workings at the deep of the shafts where the explosion originated were upon the long-wall system. The whole of the working faces open at the time of the accident amounted to about one mile in length. These faces, and the goaves behind them, some of which contained the firedamp, were scattered about in various parts of the workings. The working places were at the rise side of each goaf, going up hill, so that any firedamp which might become dislodged would at once go upon the men in those "faces." The gate roads, by which the coal was brought from the faces, came down through the goaves, the roof at the sides being supported with pack-walls. These pack-walls were built of stone which fell from the roof of the goaves, and the stone had to be brought out from behind the temporary supports called "chocks" at the faces. In getting out this stone the miners had to leave their safety-lamps outside, and go into the goaf in the dark. He reports that "the present system of working appears to involve this reprehensible practice, and it appears to be common to the other collieries worked upon the old system, and the long-wall system, as now practised in this seam at Barnsley." The mining engineers interested in the management of these mines are earnestly solicited to take the matter into serious consideration, in order that a more suitable system may be introduced. Mr. Dickinson had adopted a system (which was brought under the notice of the Select Committee of the House of Commons) in his late district, to which he attributes a diminution in the number of accidents, concurrently with a large increase in the number of persons employed in coal-mining, and recommends the adoption of that system to the Barnsley seam.

A CASE OF NITRO-GLYCERINE, delivered two or three days back for conveyance at the Berlin railway station, exploded. One of the porters was killed on the spot, and another, whose leg had to be amputated, died the same night. The driver of a wagon was greatly injured, and the vehicle itself blown to pieces. The explosion extinguished the gas in the station, and great disorder ensued. An inquiry has been instituted with a view to punish the sender, as the transmission of inflammable matters by railway is prohibited.

IMPROVEMENTS IN HYDE PARK.

IN Hyde Park, "there lies the scene" of our present remarks. At the time of the formation of the beautiful beds of flowers bordering Park-lane, advantage was taken of the disused reservoir, opposite the Mount-street entrance, to form a sunk garden, the sloping banks of which are covered with turf. The bottom, approached by four flights of stone steps, is laid out in beds intersected by four broad gravel walks, in the centre of which is placed the most artistic of our drinking-fountains (designed by Munro). Raised upon three stone steps is placed a noble marble tazza, in the centre of which is the figure of a boy, kneeling on and grasping the dorsal fin of a huge dolphin, from the blow-holes of which proceed two sparkling jets of water, falling into the capacious basin. The garden being below the general level of the park, is greatly sheltered from the cold east wind, and forms a favourite place of resort for children.

We have now to speak of the present improved system of rolling the roads of the park by the use of the powerful steam-roller, of which we give an illustration. It was used every night upon the various roads, and rapidly produced a marked improvement in their condition. The roller is the invention of Messrs. Aveling and Porter, of Rochester, manufactured by Messrs. Easton, Hinds, and Anderson, of Southwark. The engine is of 12-horse power, nominal, but capable of working to a much higher power. The rollers are of 7-ft. diameter, and are 3 ft. in width, bringing to bear a weight of more than three tons on every square foot of surface. Another new steam metal-crushing machine, made by Messrs. Richard Moreland and Son, has also been tried in Hyde Park, in the presence of Sir J. Thwaites, Mr. Bazelgette, Mr. Pollard, and various other gentlemen connected with the Metropolitan Board of Works. The trial was conducted under the direction of Mr. Mann, the super-



THE NEW RAILINGS AT HYDE PARK.

intendent of the park and park roads. The road had been specially prepared with metal, sand, and water. A very few passages of the roller speedily reduced the road to a smooth surface. The operations of the machine met with general approbation. This new roller, however, has not been constructed for metropolitan use, we are sorry to say, but for the Government and Municipality of Bombay. It is designed in accordance with a recent patent of Mr. D. Thomson, and consists, externally, of a square wrought-iron casing of great strength and rigidity, which is nearly balanced on a large central roller, with the engine on one side and the boiler on the other. On the boiler side are two leading wheels, which take only a small portion of the load, and serve for steering. The boiler is vertical, on the Field principle, and the engine works direct on the large roller, by means of two pitch chains, without any intervention of gearing. The dimensions are:—Diameter of roller, 7 ft. 6 in.; length, 6 ft.; length of external casing, 18 ft. 6 in.; width, 8 ft.; height above roadway, 8 ft.; diameter of steering-wheels, 3 ft. 6 in.; width, 1 ft. 2 in. The machine was shown turning at right angles into roads, and is quite manageable even in a crowded street. When at work it is not turned round at the end of its course, but goes backwards and forwards with equal facility. The vertical boiler is said to be a great source of safety. The diameter of the boiler is 4 ft. 3 in.; height, 10 ft. 6 in.; two cylinders, 11 in. diameter, 1 ft. 6 in. stroke. The pressure of steam is 100 lb. per square inch, and the gross weight 25½ tons—21½ tons on roller, and 4 tons on steering-wheels.

Our smaller illustration gives a representation of the new railings on the Park-lane side of the park. It supplies the place of those torn down at the great Reform meeting last year. The railings are of massive bars of rolled iron, passing through the granite curb and brickwork, and bolted beneath to plates of



MESSRS. AVELING AND PORTER'S STEAM ROAD METAL CRUSHER AT WORK IN HYDE PARK.

wrought iron passing under the foundation. The standard rails are capped with spiked globes rising from acanthus foliage, the other rails terminating in the form of a fleur-de-lis. The manufacturers are Messrs. Cottam and Co., Winsley-street.

PEOPLE OF ABYSSINIA.

THE Rev. Henry A. Stern, in his "Wanderings among the Falashas in Abyssinia," thus describes the people of the country:—"In visiting a remote country, the appearance of the inhabitants produces the most striking impressions. The idea that the dress, features, and bearings of a people tolerably well indicate their intellectual acquirements, and comparative progress in the arts of civilised life, may perhaps account for this interest. Thus, on entering Abyssinia, the traveller at once perceives that he is in the midst of a race superior in every respect to all the other tribes of Central Africa. The negro cast of countenance—the stamp of Ham's oppressed descendants, almost disappears on the alpine heights of Ethiopia, and, instead of it, the men and women one sees possess features and symmetry of form that may justly be termed handsome. To give a full delineation of their person is an easy task, since, in every respect, a genuine Abyssinian resembles a bronze statue, which the greatest sculptor might safely take for his model. In size, the true medium is between 5 ft. and 6 ft. Corpulent persons I have never seen amongst them, which may be accounted for by their continual exposure to the open air, and their inartificial mode of existence. Erect and slender, they are still not devoid of muscular strength, nor of that symmetrical roundness which so much contributes to the beauty of the human frame. Their complexion, unlike that of other dark races, is very varied. The light olive-brown certainly predominates; but it is not unusual to meet in a single town or village individuals who exhibit every shade of colour, from the pale Egyptian on the Nile at Cairo to the dark Negro in the malarious jungles near the equator. This peculiarity is, however, not so notable amongst the highlanders as amongst those who dwell near the low border districts, where a free intermixture with the black Shankallas produces a marked change in the tint of the skin and the expression of the countenance.

"The costume of the Abyssinian is exceedingly simple. Men of rank, from the King to the beggar, wear a shama, or loose dress of white cotton, which, in graceful folds, is thrown over the shoulders, so as to leave the hands and arms free to carry spear and buckler.



ABYSSINIAN LADIES AND FEMALE ATTENDANTS.—(FROM A SKETCH BY THE REV. H. A. STERN.)

The softness of the web, and the depth of the red border round the bottom of this convenient garb, indicate the social position of the wearer, and this is so minutely defined, that any one who should presume to ape his betters would, in all probability, obtain a lesson or two on dress from the Imperial giraffe-holder. Beneath the shama the aristocrat dons his silken, damask, or velvet kamees; but this is a privilege only granted to a few magnates and those whom the King delights to honour. Trousers of the same material as the shama are worn by all, and also the cotton waistcloth, which is so long that, when wound round the waist, it serves the purpose of armour in warding off blows or in protecting from the thrust of sword or lance. When engaged in battle the shama is exchanged for the dino, a mere piece of skin, sometimes of the lion or leopard, but more commonly of the sheep. Those made by the saddlers at Gondar are lined with red cotton stuff or gay chintz; but, as the common soldiers cannot generally afford so costly an article, the majority content themselves with a half-dressed sheep's hide, which is fastened by a strip of leather around their necks. The great chiefs, like the Spartans of old, during an engagement wear scarlet jackets, or cloaks, in order that, in a sharp hand-to-hand combat, the enemy may not perceive the wounds he has inflicted, and so cut off his opponent's retreat.

"The description of the men may, with little variation, be applied to the women. In their appearance and form the Abyssinian ladies are certainly not undeserving the fame they have ever enjoyed

may perhaps have originated the custom, but, whatever brought it first into vogue, the disgusting practice is at present considered the height of fashion, and of course every Abyssinian lady delights in its indulgence. The mode of trimming the hair depends on its length and on the silkiness of its texture, and partly also on the position in life of its possessor. Servants and peasants generally twist theirs into an entangled mass of curls, till it somewhat resembles a lawyer's wig; town's-people, on the contrary, have a great passion for plaits, which always remind one of Isis, Sesostris, and all the other notabilities on the monuments of ancient Egypt; and not a few amongst the *beau-monde* allow their raven locks to fall over their dubiously-coloured necks in not ungraceful *neglige*.

"Particular as the Abyssinians are in the management of the hair, they are somewhat indifferent about the more important matter of dress. Ladies of rank, besides the usual under-garment, and a loose shirt reaching below the knees and neatly embroidered in front and on the cuffs, envelop themselves, on special occasions, in a fine shama, with a gay silk border, or in a gorgeously-coloured cloak of English or German cloth. Women of the lower ranks, however, dispense with all these superfluities. A wide sack kamees, when at home, and the usual winding-sheet over it when going abroad, form their entire outfit. Some even discard these luxuries, and in their stead merely wear round the waist a cotton rag, or a dressed skin, which they fasten just above the loins with such pecu-

among their sallow and dark-skinned neighbours. Round and well-proportioned, they are particularly favoured with high and broad foreheads, aquiline noses, and eyes which, notwithstanding their unpleasant large size and dark brilliancy, are so tempered by a soft, dreamy expression, that they rather enhance than detract from what Orientals consider the perfection of beauty. Their teeth are tolerably white and even, but do not come up to those of the negro. The Abyssinians, however, surpass every other African tribe in the luxuriant growth of their hair. Black as jet, and sometimes even as straight and glossy as that of the European, it is much to be regretted that neither the men nor the women should be satisfied with a gift nature has so liberally bestowed on them, but seek to improve it either by shaving a part of the head, or by the application of an abominable coating of rancid butter. The fear of a too rapid multiplication of certain parasitic insects, that might otherwise settle in the uncombed fleece,



ABYSSINIAN SOLDIERS.

fact that, during a journey, or when engaged in domestic duties, this primitive garb never becomes disarranged.

"Ornaments are the rage of rich and poor. Those who possess means carry their love for all kinds of trinkets to such an excess that they often have more than three pounds weight of silver bells, chains, and little scent-boxes dangling down over their bosom, besides all the other *cetera*, such as rosaries, bangles, and an endless variety of charms against the Bouda, Zar, and every evil to which ladies in Abyssinia, as in other lands, are liable. The less-favoured daughters of fortune, who cannot afford to spend Maria Theresa dollars, adorn their slightly covered or uncovered bosoms with large black and yellow beads, a blue silk mattee, and a string of potent amulets neatly sewn in square leather cases.

"The feet, which are small and well shaped, neither the men nor the women expose to the agony of native shoes. A few stylish ladies and conceited priests may occasionally be seen to indulge in this extravagance; but then they appear so uncomfortable, and so piteously ill at ease, that one is almost inclined to regard them as penitents, who, to atone for certain sins, compress their toes in a clumsily-carved instrument of torture.

"Fond as the Abyssinian women are of embroidered garments and other fineries, it is strange that they should never try to gain even a slight acquaintance with the use of the needle. High and low alike depend upon their male friends for every stitch in their dress. Tastes, of course, vary in different countries, but I confess that it always provoked me to see a tall, bearded fellow acting the dress-maker, and a slender girl performing the functions of the groom. Several times I tried to introduce a reform among our own people, but the very attempt to allot to each his own proper work produced such a storm of discontent that I gave up the matter in despair.

"But if it is provoking to see a man pilfering the needle, it is still more aggravating to see him monopolise the laundry. It is true, the Abyssinians have as strong a prejudice against clean linen as against a clean face; still, whenever, during the course of the year, the shirt or shama requires a little scrubbing, a big fellow, far better adapted to plough the field, performs the agreeable job. Soap the operation does not require, nor can Ethiopia boast of this important article. The buds of a plant called endott, after being dried and pulverised, is made to answer the same purpose. Tabs, soda, potash, and all the other ingredients employed by us in the destruction of linen are there dispensed with. A large stiff hide, spread out in a hole, or between stones, so as to give it a concave form, constitutes the apparatus in which the dirty clothes and endott are placed. This task accomplished, the washerman pours over it a sufficient quantity of water to saturate the whole, and then boldly marches into it, and jumps and stamps until his feet are buried up to the ankles in an ashy lather. This process, if necessary, is repeated two or three times; but our own wash, we were often tauntingly informed (probably because it was considered unmanly), never required more than one operation.

"The adage—'Man wants but little here below'—seems a palpable absurdity when uttered by people who live in rooms that have the appearance of regular furniture shops, so that one cannot move without a nervous apprehension of coming into collision with an exquisitely inlaid table, a valuable classic vase, or a beautiful statuette that would look still more beautiful if it had a slight additional drapery around its gracefully-chiselled limbs, and many other encumbrances that are considered indispensable. Now, in Ethiopia, where civilisation first took its rise, and then, like the fertilising Nile, poured its treasure into Egypt, whence it found a way into Greece and the rest of the ancient civilised world, no such inconsistency would attach to the use of the proverb, for there a few earthen pots and jars, a tray or two in which to bake the thin bread, and half a dozen spears, are the usual furniture of an ordinary establishment. Wicker baskets, serving also the purpose of a table, and a variety of large horns in which hydromel is carried on journeys, together with shields, swords, and a few monstrous pomade-pots of dried gourds, may also be seen around the wattle huts of officers and merchants; but the stationary baal acker, or peasant, is quite content if he has the requisite pottery in which to prepare his daily food.

"The Abyssinian, whether at home or on a journey, retires to rest an hour or two after sunset. Beds, seats, or alga, being everywhere scarce, he spreads a bullock's hide over rushes, and sleeps as soundly as he could on down. Families huddle together in groups, and it not unfrequently happens, on grand visiting or market days, that half a dozen couples, and perhaps an equal proportion of hopeful progeny, will be rolled up like sacks in a shed which a couple of Europeans would find too narrow to breathe in. Immediately on rising the women attend to their domestic work; whilst the men either idly dawdle about, or, if engaged in agricultural pursuits, repair to the field. Their implements of husbandry are of the rudest description. The plough is a rough beam, with a crooked handle to guide it, and a wedge, forming a vertical angle, to cut the soil. Straight parallel furrows the Ethiopian husbandman does not consider of any importance. His oxen or mules may run in all directions; he is quite sure that, if the earth is only broken, the seed scattered over it will yield an abundant harvest. This kind of work, which is the heaviest the men perform, admits of no comparison with the more onerous duties devolving on the poor women. In a large household, where a good number of females are required, some go early in the morning to collect wood, and others to fetch water, while not a few busily employ their hands in cleaning the stables, or in preparing bread, shiro, dilik, and wotz for breakfast. To remove the husks from the grain before it is washed and ground, is regarded by all as a most tiring job. We usually employed two to relieve each other at this occupation; but the unfeeling natives, who have no such consideration, sometimes force their female servants or slaves to stand over the rude mortar till their arms become almost paralysed, and they are ready to drop from sheer exhaustion and fatigue.

"In speaking of menials, I will just mention that in the homes of the great, their number is literally legion. Twenty men and six or seven women are the usual attendants of a respectable merchant or Royal officer. Their wages, as already stated, vary from two to three dollars per year; but even this pittance is not always paid. Contempt for the ill-requited labour of husbandry, and the great lack of other useful industry, may be assigned as the chief causes of the abject servitude to which more than half the population is reduced."

THE FENIAN CONVICT GOULD.—The convict Gould, who now gives the name of O'Brien, has been identified as one of the party of four men who were tried at the South Lancashire Assizes, in December, for having illegal possession of a number of Government rifles. The convict then described himself as Michael O'Brien, and said that he was a mechanic. He was seen in company with three men, carrying several heavy cases into a cellar in Liverpool. The police apprehended the men and seized the cases, and found that the latter contained forty-nine short Enfields, which were identified as the property of a volunteer corps in London. The cases also contained a large quantity of phosphorus.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The restoration of the tropical department, which was burnt down last year, is progressing with satisfactory expedition. Though the fire on the occasion to which we have alluded certainly destroyed the most interesting and attractive portion of the building, it affected little or nothing beyond what is known to the *habitués* of the Crystal Palace as the screen—that is, the glass partition which divided the tropical department from the rest of the building. Visitors cannot, therefore, looking from the nave, recognise any difference in the aspect of the palace; and very few, indeed, were aware until very recently that the courts beyond the screen were being restored. It may be interesting to state that the section of the tropical department which terminates at the end of the Alhambra Court is now nearly covered in. Though this is but a small portion of the whole department, it will afford an agreeable promenade for those who made the northern end of the palace their favourite haunt in former years. It is a remarkable fact that, though the fire by which this end of the building was destroyed raged in and on both sides of the Alhambra Court, its magnificent arabesque dome was not affected in the slightest degree. As soon as the skeleton of the section which is now being re-erected is completed, the work of renovating the courts within it will be commenced. These are the Alhambra, the Indian, the Byzantine, and the Naval Courts. Though it will take some time to restore the whole of the tropical department, the work will be pursued with the utmost expedition, and in a few years we hope to see the Crystal Palace in all its former integrity.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1867.

HOW A PARSON TEACHES HISTORY.

If it be true that "whom the gods doom they first make mad," the Church of England—or, rather, the clergy thereof, which is the same thing in the view of reverend gentlemen—must be in a "parlous state," for many of their sayings and doings of late can only be accounted for by the notion that the parsons are labouring under a state of *dementia*. There is the Ritualistic movement, which has been introduced upon the strength of precedents which even its supporters confess are of very doubtful authority; which they admit to be non-essential to religion, but which they yet persist in making a bone of contention and a source of heart-burning and feud; and which would be contemptible as it is ludicrous, did not designing men use it as a stalking-horse under cover of which they might pursue their sinister designs upon the freedom of the human mind. Priestly supremacy has always been a curse to mankind wherever it has obtained; and priestly supremacy over the minds and bodies of men is the object aimed at by the Tractarians, Ritualists, and semi-Papists who now so largely abound among the clergy of the Anglican Church. Their lust of power is unsatiable, and, as they feel themselves incapable of commanding influence by virtue of superior learning, breadth of thought, knowledge of human nature, logical power, or oratorical ability, they seek to gain their end by appealing to the love of show, pomp, and parade inherent in weak-minded people of both sexes, and by vitiating the minds of youth. The clerical mind is utterly unphilosophical and unsympathetic. A parson is educated to teach certain dogmas, not to search after truth. He lives in a narrow and confined circle, and hears but one class of people talk and one set of notions canvassed. He is accustomed to lay down the law, both in his pulpit exhortations and in the society in which he moves. He dares not indulge in either freedom of thought or freedom of speech, lest he should get into the toils and troubles of heterodoxy. All this limits the range of his mental vision, makes him intolerant of opposition, dogmatic in reasoning, dictatorial in manner, harsh in judgment, and greedy of power. His very sincerity—for, disagreeing with the late John Scott, Lord Clonmell, Chief Justice of Ireland, we do not believe that "every parson is a hypocrite and every musician a fool," though there are no doubt hypocrites and fools in both classes—only aggravates his faults, for it induces him to be ever ready to use all or any means to compel people to what he deems their good. Hence his dictation to adults and his perverted teaching of the young.

A remarkable instance of the last-mentioned tendency has just been exposed by a contemporary, and which shows how dangerous a thing it is to leave the education of youth under clerical influence. Sackville College, East Grinstead, has for its Warden the Rev. J. M. Neale, M.A., who aspires to be both the laureate and the historian of the extreme High, or semi-Papal, party in the Church. His intellectual life lies in far-past times; he clings tenaciously to long-explored notions; and he has very exalted ideas indeed of the importance, and rights, and position, and privileges of the Church—that is, of the clergy. He has written certain "Mediaeval Hymns," "Lays and Legends of the English Church," and other rhymed effusions, all of which belong essentially to the "Dark Ages," and of which an eminent organ of criticism has said that they exhibit "a bigotry of which contempt itself could say nothing more bitter than that it is in perfect harmony with the doggerel which embodies it." But Mr. Neale is also an historian; or, at least, a compiler of what he calls history; and in 1845 he published a small volume entitled "English History for Children," the character of which will be seen from the article, with extracts, which we elsewhere quote from the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

It is almost a waste of time to comment upon the unchristian spirit which rejoices at the death of Prince Henry because "he was a Puritan at heart;" the ignorance of constitutional history exhibited in the assertion that the Parliament and people of England had no right to control the taxation and expenditure of the country; the perversion of facts embodied in the attempt to blacken the characters of Elizabeth, Cromwell, and William III., and to exalt those of "bloody Mary," Charles I., and James II.; the silliness of the remark that England was to blame in the quarrel with the American colonies solely because she did not send them enough Bishops; and other absurdities of which Mr. Neale is guilty. The book would be a very harmless affair if read only by those who know the history of their country; but it may do mischief when put into the hands of ignorant persons and children. It is really difficult to determine whether folly or knavery most largely pervades Mr. Neale's production. One thing, however, is abundantly clear, and that is,

that if the Rev. J. M. Neale and those who think with him had their way, we might bid a long farewell to British freedom. The darkness of mediæval times would again descend upon the land, to be broken only by the glare of the rekindled fires of Smithfield; the martyr's stake would once more be erected; and persecution and tyranny and torture would rule supreme amongst us.

We may be approaching such a state of things as that, but we have not reached it yet, and it behoves all lovers of liberty, while there is time, to raise their voice against such teaching as that of the Rev. J. M. Neale, and to labour to rescue education from the clerical thralldom in which it is at present bound. And the first step in that direction ought to be the abolition of denominational control over our national schools. The clergy have now, as they always have had, the chief influence in managing our educational institutions; the teaching of the people has been in their hands, in other respects besides religious instruction, and the success that has attended their efforts is evidenced by the crass ignorance and brutality of large masses of the population, especially in the rural districts, where their influence is greatest; while the sort of education they would impart is illustrated by the way in which the Rev. J. M. Neale writes "English History for Children." Mr. Neale, or anybody else, may have a right to compile books with the object of giving people, whether old or young, "a Churchman's view" of history; but it is intolerable that works written with avowedly such a partisan purpose should be used as text-books in schools mainly supported out of the public revenue. The annual Parliamentary vote for education now amounts to between £700,000 and £800,000, a large proportion of which is appropriated to schools directly under clerical control; and since such pernicious teaching as that of the Rev. J. M. Neale is rife in these institutions, it is putting the matter mildly to say that the money spent upon them is worse than wasted. Mr. Neale's book had for years the fostering care of the National School Society and the sanction of the Committee of Council on Education, though how it ever obtained either it is difficult to imagine. But the fact that it has been so sanctioned, notwithstanding its palpable partisan tone and its avowed object of exalting the power of the Church—that is, we again repeat, of the clergy—proves that the education of the people cannot be allowed to remain on its present footing, and that we must both reform the Committee of Council and get rid of clerical control over the national schools of the country.

The clergy, as we have already said, are neither far-seeing nor broad-visioned men; but if they were capable of reflection they would perceive that this excessive exalting of the horn of priestcraft is driving matters to a dangerous pass. Should their aims be accomplished—should they attain the power they are striving for, the result will be to divide mankind into two great camps—the one occupied by the clergy and their adherents, and the other by sceptics, freethinkers, and infidels. Thinking men will be driven, in defence of mental freedom, into the ranks of the latter party when they find the true principles of Christianity so grossly betrayed and perverted by their professed teachers and defenders. Is that a consummation at all to be desired, or to be contemplated with indifference? And, if not, then let us vigorously resist priestly pretension, free education from clerical control, and banish from our schools such perversions of history as that penned by the Rev. J. M. Neale, Warden of Sackville College, East Grinstead.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to confer the honour of knighthood upon Dr. Travers Twiss, her Majesty's Advocate-General, who succeeded to that position on the promotion of Dr. Phillimore to the Deanery of Arches.

THE PRINCE OF WALES completed his twenty-sixth year last Saturday, the day of his nativity being Nov. 9, 1841. The usual demonstrations of loyalty in the metropolis marked the anniversary. In the evening, the association of royal tradesmen celebrated the event by a dinner, and the clubhouses, theatres, and many of the shops at the West-End were illuminated.

THE KING OF GREECE AND HIS YOUNG BRIDE arrived at Vienna on Tuesday, and were received with much state by the Emperor of Austria.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER has issued invitations for a full-dress dinner to the leading Ministerial members of the House of Commons on Monday next. The dinner will take place at the Clarendon Hotel, in consequence of the right hon. gentleman's mansion at Grosvenor Gate being under repair.

MR. GLADSTONE has addressed the following circular to the members of the Opposition:—"Hawarden, Chester, Nov. 7, 1867.—Sir, her Majesty has been pleased to fix the meeting of Parliament for the 19th inst., with a view, as it is understood, to the dispatch of important business; and I venture to express the hope that you may find it convenient to give your attendance on that day."

THE MOVERS OF THE ADDRESS will, it is understood, be Earl Brownlow in the House of Lords, and Mr. William Hart Dyke, M.P. for West Kent, in the House of Commons.

LORD BROUGHAM has arrived at his residence in Berkeley-square from Brougham Hall. His Lordship is very feeble, but in tolerable health, and in a few days will go by easy stages to his chateau at Cannes.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT has accepted the invitation of the Liberal party of Manchester to offer himself as a candidate for the representation of that city.

MR. STEPHEN TEMPLE, Q.C., of the Northern Circuit, will succeed the late Mr. Edward James as Attorney-General of the County Palatine of Lancaster.

MR. ROBERT SINCLAIR has commenced an action against Lord Redesdale for libels in connection with certain railway matters.

APPLICATIONS OF OFFICERS to retire from the Army are unusually large at present.

THE MARQUIS OF HASTINGS is said to be about to dispose of his stud with a view to retrenchment.

TWO FACES of the clock in the tower of St. George's Church, Borough are to be illuminated. It would cost £135 to illuminate all four.

DR. THOMPSON, Master of Trinity College, has been elected Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge without opposition.

THE EARL OF MAYO, Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, will be made a Knight of St. Patrick, in the room of the late Earl of Rosse. Lord Dunboyne has become a representative peer for Ireland, for a vacancy caused by the same event.

MR. TITUS SALT, the founder of Saltire, and at one time member for Bradford, is likely to be made a Baronet.

EARL NELSON will preside over a meeting of High Churchmen—clergy, and laity—to be held in London on the 19th inst., for the purpose of considering a memorial which it is proposed to present to the Royal Commissioners on Ritualism.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER has ordered monthly, instead of quarterly, payments to the public officials.

KANSAS, it is estimated, has a population of 300,000 persons. The number of cattle in the State is 1,000,000. The total value of live stock is 40,000,000 dollars.

THE FRENCH GENERAL who commanded at Mentana was greatly surprised to find young lads of fifteen among his prisoners, and remonstrated with them. "General," replied one of these youthful soldiers, "it is never too soon to learn how to do well."

THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF ALESSANDRIA (Italy) lately voted, in a morning sitting, 5000*l.* for the wounded Garibaldians in the Roman insurrection; and a like sum in the evening for the same object.

A TELEGRAM FROM ADEN announces the arrival there from Bombay of the advanced brigade of the Abyssinian expedition. The brigade left again on the 29th ult., in twelve ships, for Zoolah or Zeylah, on the Abyssinian coast. There were no fresh tidings of the prisoners.

THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTES OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF BADEN has just taken into consideration a motion for rendering civil marriage compulsory, and confiding to special magistrates the registers hitherto intrusted to the ministers of the different creeds. The measure was adopted unanimously, minus three votes.

THE LAKE OF NEUSFELD, in Hungary, on the confines of Austria, is now completely drained and dried, and the land so obtained is about to be placed under cultivation. It contains eight square miles of virgin soil, and the belief is that it will prove extremely fertile.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY has carried in six months over 12,000,000 passengers, or about three times the population of London. The actual number transported over the line since its opening in January, 1863, is about 70,000,000.

THE AUTHOR of the article on the "Talmud" in the last number of the *Quarterly* is Mr. Emmanuel Deutsch, of the British Museum, a gentleman who has peculiar opportunities of studying the subject—to which, indeed, he has devoted a large part of his life.

AN ACTION has been brought against the Metropolitan Board of Works for alleged trespass in dealing with the inclosed space in Leicester-square, under the Public Gardens Act of 1863. The plaintiff is Mr. Tulk, who claims that the inclosure is his property, and not a public garden.

A FUND, to be called the Mc'Gaughey Memorial Relief Fund, is being raised for the assistance of the widow and family of the late Professor Mc'Gaughey, whose death was recently announced. A committee, of which Sir David Brewster is chairman, is associated for this purpose, and particulars will shortly be made public.

THE REV. W. J. BUTLER, Vicar of Wantage, who was elected Bishop of the diocese of Natal, in the room of Dr. Colenso, deposed by Bishop Gray, "Metropolitan of South Africa," has refused to accept the appointment. This course has been taken on the suggestion of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Oxford, to whom the matter was referred.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BADEN has decided to increase its army. Instead of the two brigades of which the army has hitherto consisted, there are to be three, the additional force being made up by adding a regiment to the infantry, a squadron to each regiment of dragoons, a battery to the artillery, and a company to the corps of engineers.

AT ONE OF THE CHURCHES IN FROME the preacher offered up the following extempore prayer before the sermon:—"We pray Thee to guide those into authority that they may pick upon the right man for the bishopric of Lichfield."

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., was invited to resume his connection with Manchester as its representative, a private communication having been made that if he would consent to stand the Liberals of that city would support him. Mr. Bright at once declined, saying, as he had previously done, that as long as Birmingham cared to have him he would remain member for Birmingham.

THE MANUFACTURE OF STEEL TIRES for locomotives, formerly a branch of trade done only in England, is now accomplished successfully at several places in the United States, one of the latest factories opened being located at Nassau, New Hampshire. Philadelphia, we believe, had the honour of being the first place in America where steel locomotive tires were made.

A CURIOUS COMPLIMENT is about to be paid to Mr. Maguire, M.P., on the occasion of his producing a new work, "The Irish in America." The committee of paper manufacturers have agreed to give him the paper for his first edition, as some slight recognition of services which they have received from him.

THE REMOVAL OF ARTICLES FROM THE EXHIBITION has just brought to light a singular discovery. In the Italian section a workman had called on one of his comrades to assist him in lifting an immense cheese, which had stood against a wall, into a packing-case; the men stooped and put out all their strength; but what was their surprise to find that the article was as light as a drum. A family of rats had installed themselves in it, and nothing but a mere shell remained.

BARNSTABLE was the scene of serious riots last Saturday morning. They are spoken of as bread riots. Several bakers' shops were sacked, and a mill only escaped destruction through a compromise between its owners and the crowd. Riots of this description have been occurring in almost every town of any importance in Devonshire. This one at Barnstable, however, seems to have been more serious than any of its predecessors.

THE MAN GROVES, who was at first charged with shooting the Guardsman McDonnell, in Bloomsbury, and who, on being acquitted of that charge, was committed for trial for an assault on a man named Buzzer, has been found guilty of the latter offence and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and at the expiration of that period to enter into sureties to keep the peace for six months.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

IN a private note, last week, accompanying my MS., I told you that I was unwell. A cruel old enemy of mine had seized me by the throat. But let that pass. He has been forced to relax his hold, but has left me weak in body and moody in mind, all which you can well understand. The sun looks dim, the dun-coloured black, the black blacker. If, therefore, I write in too gloomy a strain this week you will know the cause. But in truth I think that there is not a very bright and cheering outlook. First, there is that horrible explosion in the Ferndale Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales. "Ferndale!" How suggestive of beauty is the name; an undulating valley, carpeted with ferns for miles! and now what a scene is that valley—crowds of anxious men are there, and women filling the air with their lamentations! One turns away from the contemplation of it, and indignantly asks Science why she cannot prevent these awful catastrophes. But Science, unmoved, calmly replies, that she has done her part. She has shown a way to prevent them, but men will not take advantage of her discoveries. And this is true; wonderfully strange, but strictly true. Had there been no exposed light down in the colliery I suppose there would have been no explosion. There must, then, have been exposed lights; and as soon as the shafts were opened facts were discovered to corroborate this *a priori* reason—some lamps were discovered opened. It is unjust to blame science. All that she can do is to show the way. If men will perversely go in quite an opposite road, what can she do? The cold positivist shrugs his shoulders, and says if men will break Nature's laws they must pay the penalties. And this is true; but, alas! in such cases as this it is more than probable that after all only a small percentage have broken the laws, whilst all have paid the penalties. Now, whilst I was musing on the subject this idea occurred to me. Her Majesty's ships of war, when on a voyage, have always tons of combustibles aboard, and yet you rarely hear of an explosion on board a ship of war; even in action such a thing seldom occurs. And why? Simply because rigorous laws are rigorously enforced. And why should not rigorous laws be enforced with military rigour down in these mines? A very rich coal proprietor and iron master said, when I suggested this to him, "It couldn't be done. You don't understand the thing. Business couldn't go on;" and so on, and so on. Just as we used to hear from the opponents of factory inspection in days gone by. But a long-headed miner, whom I have known for years, asserted that the thing could be done. Is it more difficult rigorously to watch the most capacious mine than it is to test thousands and tens of thousands of railway carriage wheels every day? "It is," said he, "a mere question of cost." And that, I believe, is the fact.

And now, a word or two more on this subject, for it has fascinated me. There are some who will call this catastrophe a Divine judgment; there we dismiss without remark. The multitude will call it an accident; but are they more philosophical? For by "accident" most of them mean something which cannot be prevented. Let me, however, tell them that there are very few so-called accidents which might never not have been prevented, or prevented from being disastrous. Let me give you an instance of an accident which some think might have been prevented, and which all decided might have been rendered less disastrous than it was; and then another which might have been quite as frightful, but was not, because precautions had been taken beforehand. The loss of the London we all remember. Well, let us suppose that the wreck was inevitable. Upon that I

offer no opinion; but everybody must admit that if the boat service had been sufficient and in good order many of the passengers might have been saved. Well, now look at this fact, the details of which have just come to me from a kinsman who describes what he saw. On the 20th of August last the Peninsular and Oriental steam-ship Singapore started from Yokohama, in Japan, to go to Hakodadi; and here I will just tell my readers what the main object of the voyage was. It was to discover whether any silkworm eggs could be got at Hakodadi. A valuable trade has within the last few years sprung up in these eggs between Japan and Italy. The gallant ship was steaming at full speed along the coast; my kinsman, in loose attire, was lying on the deck reading a book, when suddenly he heard and felt a terrific "crunch." Immediately thinking that the boiler had exploded, he ran to the engine-room; but, seeing that the engine was at work, he knew that the ship had struck an unseen rock. "Lower the boats!" shouted the captain; and please to mark the pregnancy of the words. "And every boat was in the water, and every passenger was in the boats, within six minutes after the ship struck." The ship struck on her starboard; she heeled over to port; was instantly off the rock, with her side torn open; heeled back to starboard; then righted, and then began to fill and settle down. The captain and the crew to a man stopped on board for a time. They got out the compasses, the chronometers, the ship's papers, and the bullion aboard; and when all had been done that could be done they, too, got into the boats, and every human being, to the men in the fire-bunkers, escaped. The ship sank fast at the stern, and in less than half an hour she lifted her bows in the air, and then plunged down into the depths. This lesson needs no comment.

Whenever you see a letter in the *Star* signed William Coningham, read it. You will always find the letters of this gentleman, who, I hardly need tell you, is the late member for Brighton, worth reading; for, though they are short, not sufficiently explanatory, almost unintelligible indeed to those who know nothing about the subject on which he writes, they generally throw light, as by the flash of a policeman's bull's-eye, into some dark corner. Mr. Coningham, in the *Star* of Tuesday, tells us that this Abyssinian war is traceable to a sudden change of the policy of the Foreign Office. Let me tell you what he means; for there may be truth in his statement. The Sultan of Turkey has always claimed to be the rightful Lord of Abyssinia, the suzerain or fiefdom head. Mr. Coningham says that this claim is founded upon some antiquated treaty; but here, I think, he is wrong. It is probably founded upon conquest. But, no matter; England practically did not recognise this claim; nor has, indeed, Turkey enforced it for many, many years. It was, as we say, dormant; though every now and then it made itself heard, as if it were about to wake up and be troublesome. King Theodore, of course, knew all about it, and never ceased to have it in his mind's eye. I have said that England did not recognise it. On the contrary, we have until quite lately treated Abyssinia as an independent Power. Consul Plowden, without leave asked of the Sultan (1849-52), negotiated a commercial treaty with Abyssinia. It proved a dead letter; but it also proves that we treated Abyssinia as an independent State. Nay, once, if not oftener, when a rumour got abroad that the Pacha of Egypt—a feudatory of the Sultan, remember—was about to invade Abyssinia, England remonstrated. This recognition by England of Abyssinia's independence was a great thing for King Theodore. It was a bulwark against the encroachments of Egypt on one side and of Turkey on the other. The King hates Turks with a mortal hatred, and by Turks he means all Mohammedans. This hatred is partly the old *odium theologicum*, but arises mainly from the position of Abyssinia, lying, as it does, very near the open jaws of the Mohammedan Powers, ready and anxious to swallow it. Well, some few years ago a change apparently came over English policy in those quarters. Our Foreign Office did not refuse openly to recognise Abyssinia as an independent Power, but it certainly did something which led King Theodore to suspect that England was playing him false. In the Holy Land the Abyssinians were robbed in a most flagrant way of their convent. England was called upon to interfere. She refused, upon the ground that it was not the policy of England to interfere between a Sovereign and his subjects. I am not sure that I have given the exact phrase, as I am writing from memory; but whatever was the phrase, it gave the Abyssinian Monarch the idea that England had ceased to recognise his country's independence. Then, again, at a most critical moment, this fact came out—to wit, that the Sultan had made over to the Pacha of Egypt all the ports of the Black Sea. This would, naturally enough, fan the rage of the King; for in the hands of the effete Sultan these ports were for the most part unused—in short, they were under the deadly shade which hovers over and paralyses everything belonging to the Sultan. But in the hand of the Pacha there is no knowing what they may be. I said that Abyssinia is near the jaws of the Mohammedan Powers. But one jaw was paralysed. Now, however, we shall probably soon see the paralysis is gone. Mr. Coningham says that the Sultan has, for a life-rent, handed over all the territory of Abyssinia, and that Sir Henry Bulwer was instrumental in negotiating a treaty to that effect. If that be so, and if Theodore knew it—and if it be so Theodore unquestionably did know it—no one can wonder at this semi-barbarian's rage. However, one thing seems now to be certain, that Theodore has somehow got it into his head that England has played him false, and that, in revenge, he has seized Consul Cameron and his companions. Another instance this, Mr. Coningham says, of the meddling and muddling of the Foreign Office. And I fear that this is true. "The Foreign Office," said Cobden, "ties Gordian knots, and then asks the War Office to cut them with the sword." As I said last week, what business had we to be diplomatising in those out-of-the-way lands?

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The *Fortnightly* was, for some reason, late this month, in company with a few more of the magazines. Your readers may remember that Mr. Herman Merivale some time ago wrote an article on "London Architecture" in the *F. R.*; and Mr. H. Conybeare contributes this month an interesting article on the "Future" of that "architecture." Mr. Conybeare makes out a strong case for building in hydraulic concrete, with ceramic facings—a method which, besides its advantages in regard of strength and ornament, is, according to him, much cheaper than the ordinary brickwork plan. As to the "fire-proof" qualities of hydraulic concrete, I know nothing; but I do know that some of the ordinary impressions about what is "fire-proof" are mistaken. For example, granite is a very bad material: it cracks with heat in a very short time, and some serious fire catastrophes have been attributed to its use for the pillars of warehouses. Again, iron girders are less durable, in case of fire, than oaken beams. Mr. Carlyle abuses, somewhere, modern brickwork. A good deal of it is bad enough; but the best evidence goes to this—that the well-made modern brick is a perfect article. Mr. Walter Bagehot begins a series (?) of papers on "Physics and Politics," in which he applies certain laws of scientific parallel, not, indeed, in absolutely new directions, but with fresh clearness and resolute precision. The reader will follow Mr. Bagehot with deep interest, I am sure; but let him beware what inferences he admits! Briefly, we can dissect a dead body, but we cannot make a living man. Mr. Swinburne's "Halt before Rome" is written with his usual splendour, but everybody will wish he had put off singing till after the battle of Mentana. Here is a portion of his description of the "Vicar" of Him who said, "My kingdom is not of this world; if it were, then would my servants fight." He has,

Claws as a vulture,
Plumage and beak as a dove.
He saith, "I am pilot and haven,
Light and redemption I am
Unto souls overlaboured," he saith;
And to all men the blast of his breath
Is a savour of death unto death;
And the Dove of his worship a raven,
And a wolf-cub the Life-giving Lamb.

Rome, having rent her in sunder,
With the clasp of an adler he clasps;
Swift to shed blood are his feet,
And his lips, that have man for their meat,
Smoother than oil, and more sweet
Than honey, but hidden thereunder
Festers the poison of asps.

As swords are his tender mercies,
His knives as mortal stings;
Under his hallowing hands
Life dies down in all lands;
Kings pray to him, from where he stands,
And his blessings, as other men's curses,
Disanoint, where they consecrate, Kings.

In a vigorous "Dialogue" upon "Culture" Mr. Frederic Harrison turns Mr. Matthew Arnold's great gun Arminius against Mr. Arnold himself in a very effective manner. It is of no use reading this article, however, without bringing to the task close attention and a good recollection of what Mr. Arnold has written. Meanwhile, the present writer, having spoken as he has of Mr. Arnold's poetry, is free to repeat what he has formerly said of some of his prose. As a critic of philosophy and philosophic and theological writers, he is incorrect, even to childishness. As a critic on *all* subjects, he is inconsequent and capriciously incomplete (though often very delightful). As a social and political writer, he is so insidious that if his power were equal to his subtlety of attack, he would be in England the most dangerous of the living allies of despotism and centralisation. To my brethren of the Liberal press I would again say, "Distrust him; watch him; and rip him up as often as you can." There was some idea that he had made a hit with the word *geist* ("Philistine" and "Philistinism" were already commonplaces); but he has put his foot in it with his "sweetness and light," a mistake that will stick to him as long as he lives. "Sweetness and light" is really another name for the *morale* of artistic scepticism; as dangerous a foe to liberty and goodness as the worst religious bigotry.

In *Temple Bar* "Gup" is concluded; and, amidst much good matter, there are some keen epigrams by Mr. James Hannay.

In the *London* article on "Pain" is noticeable for its calmness and information. The writer maintains, with *real* relevance to an often-raised and often-dodged issue, that the amount of "pain" in the world is much less than it appears to be. "The Hero of 1860" is also exceedingly good; but, though well-timed, from a magazine point of view, would surely have been kept back just now by a man who either loved "the hero" or wished well to the purpose of his life. But the editor may be more in fault than the writer; and I suppose it would be hard to make some editors believe that the "chief end of" literature is *not* always to catch the ear of the public.

The *Gardener's Magazine*, the *Floral World*, and *Country Life*, are all good in their way; but it strikes me that the writers in these publications assume that their readers know much more of gardening and floriculture than is generally possessed by amateurs. Hence the articles are less satisfactory than they might be were matters dealt with in a less learned, technical, and semi-professional manner.

I read, Sir, in the newspapers that "the Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., speaking on educational topics at a meeting at Romsey, said that 'in a free country like England he did not think a man should be compelled to do anything in which a discretion might fairly be left to him.' If Mr. Cowper did say this, he ought to be made Grand Master of the Ancient Order of Platitudinarians.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Wigan has done wisely in reviving his famous comic drama, "The First Night." A more perfect piece of acting than his, in the part of the broken-down French comedian, Achille Talma Dufard, has not been seen for many years. If I remember rightly, it is one of the pieces that first brought Mr. Wigan into distinguished favour with London audiences; at all events, it is associated in every playgoer's mind with his most pleasing recollections of Mr. Wigan's performances. The sentiment and humour of the character of old Dufard are exquisitely balanced, and in it Mr. Wigan has an opportunity of employing his singularly delicate perception of character to the best advantage. His make up is in perfect keeping with the part: he is a miserably poor man, struggling to maintain a decent exterior, and assisted to some extent by the inherent buoyancy of a French Bohemian's nature. He is an actor, and, in his own estimation, a gentleman; he has just enough of the charlatan about him to suggest that he will stoop to "humbug" if he cannot attain his end by other means. All this is suggested at first sight by Mr. Wigan's make up and bearing, which are broadly funny without being in any way outrageous. The production of "The First Night" afforded a favourable opportunity of introducing a promising young lady—Miss Pauline Markham—to a London audience. This young lady—who has, I believe, made a certain reputation in Manchester and other provincial towns—possesses a remarkably pretty face and figure and a really fine contralto voice. She is quiet and unassuming on the stage; and when she has acquired a full confidence in her powers, she will probably make as marked an impression as an actress as she has already made as a singer. The introduced duet from the "Huguenots" was unanimously redemanded, and the happy debutante left the stage in a shower of bouquets. I abhor unqualified praise; so allow me to put in a *per contra* to my remarks on Mr. Wigan's performance in "The First Night." One of the scenes takes place on the stage of a theatre during rehearsal, and in the course of the scene Achille Talma Dufard has occasion to address the orchestra several times. This is all very well—the scene is a stage, and the orchestra is part of the scene. But in the next scene, which takes place in the author's lodging (poor stage-author! it's always a lodging—never a house) Mr. Wigan still addresses the orchestra from time to time, as if it formed a portion of the author's domestic staff. Surely this is a serious mistake.

Mr. Brough's new two-act comedy at the STRAND, "Kind to a Fault," is brightly written, but its structure is complicated and rather confused. It illustrates the unfortunate results that may sometimes arise from an over-zealous and indiscriminate desire to do good. Among the consequences of Mr. Belford's good-nature may be mentioned the temporary estrangement of a loving husband and wife, and of two pairs of devoted lovers. The construction is, as I have said, complicated, and the story wholly impossible. Mr. Parselle represents a gentleman who is devoted to his wife, but his devotion is tinged with a jealousy which he himself knows to be wholly unreasonable. Yet this high-minded, upright, straightforward, loving husband is mean enough to resort to the old farce dodge of bribing a comic man-servant to act as a spy on his wife! The whole piece turns upon this, if the comic man-servant had not been set to act as a spy on the lady in question the subsequent imbroglio could not have taken place. The piece is well played. Mr. Parselle's "make up" as a prosperous solicitor was admirable, save in the matter of the white necktie. When will actors learn that a white necktie is no more a distinctive mark of a solicitor than a blue-and-white "bird's-eye" is of a clergyman? Mr. Belford played the good-natured man in his usual easy, jaunty style. The art of disguising his identity is not one of this actor's many merits. Miss Fanny Gwynne played the elderly attorney's young wife in a quiet and ladylike fashion. The comedy was quite successful, and the author appeared before the curtain to bow his acknowledgments.

At the OLYMPIC Morton's almost-forgotten comedy, "The Way to Get Married," has been revived. The revival is not likely to be attended with advantageous results, for the piece is irretrievably dull. It has been considerably lightened by the excision of the sentimental Captain Falkner; but, even as it stands, it is extremely stupid and improbable. Mr. Mathews is tolerably well fitted in the part of Tangent; and Mr. M. Robson played Allspice, the grocer and high sheriff, with a judicious humour that would have done this gentleman good service if it had been displayed in a more popular piece. Mr. Neville and Miss E. Farren also distinguished themselves, though in a less degree,

JUDGE MANOCKJEE CURSETJEE.

THE biographies of great and good men are amongst the most pleasing and useful efforts of the pen. A worthy life thus widens its influence, for wherever the written record of noble deeds is perused the mind of the reader is led to admire them, and to imitate, even though in a less degree, such lofty actions.

Few worthier instances of true usefulness can be mentioned than that afforded by the exemplary life of Judge Manockjee Cursetjee, a native of Bombay. This eminent man, whose portrait is presented to our readers, is well known in Europe and in India by his varied literary attainments, and by a life devoted to intellectual, moral, and social reformation among his countrymen, but more especially for his strenuous efforts to emancipate the women of Hindostan from the national curse and degradation of caste and priestly influence.

Manockjee Cursetjee is the first native of India who has been enrolled as member and fellow of any of the learned societies of Europe. Thirty years ago he became distinguished abroad, and during that interval he has been elected a member of the Royal Asiatic Society, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of England, and associated with several literary and scientific bodies on the continent of Europe. In 1837 Sir Robert Grant selected Manockjee Cursetjee from the rest of his countrymen to fill the important post of assistant collector at Bombay, a grade of office then and previously exclusively held by Europeans of the upper ranks of life; thus throwing open, through this eminent Parsee, the portal of the uncovenanted civil service to the natives of India. He was also the first native of India elevated to the high office of Sheriff, which he held under the government of Lord Elphinstone, which rare honour was again bestowed upon him under the rule of Sir Bartle Frere, late Governor of Bombay. During the last fifteen years he has occupied the bench of a British Court of Justice at Bombay, before whom British barristers appear to plead. As a Judge he has, by his extensive knowledge and unshaken integrity, won great honour, commanding the respect and admiration of all who admire justice; and, as an illustration of his fame and influence, it may be incidentally mentioned that during the late debate in the House of Lords on an appeal by this disinterested Judge to restrain the Bombay Government from interfering in judicial matters, Lord Chancellor Chelmsford quoted the following from a resolution of the Governor and Council of India:—"His

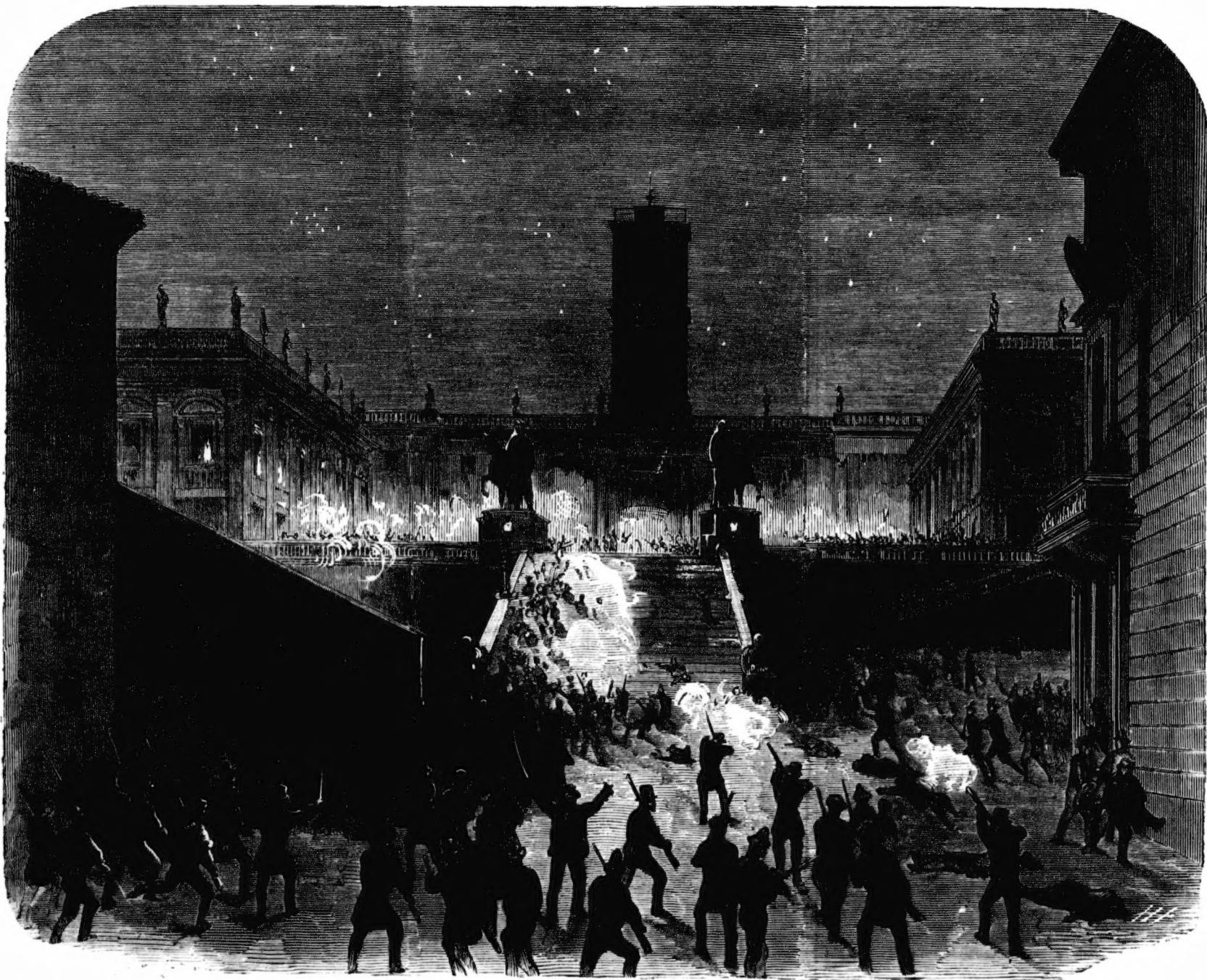


JUDGE MANOCKJEE CURSETJEE, OF BOMBAY.

Excellency in Council recognises in Mr. Manockjee Cursetjee many valuable qualifications for the judicial office—incorruptible integrity, fearless independence, energetic zeal to ascertain the truth, honest scorn of all chicanery, and very considerable acumen in estimating the value of evidence."

Judge Manockjee Cursetjee has been a great traveller throughout Europe, and, in the course of his journeyings, has enjoyed distinguished reception at the Courts of several crowned heads and been hospitably welcomed by the nobility and gentry of Germany, France, Italy, and Russia. It may be mentioned here that Judge Manockjee Cursetjee is the author of many valuable pamphlets on politics, philosophy, education, and other important subjects, which he has discussed with peculiar force and felicity of expression. That he possesses a large, an active, and a benevolent mind is best indicated by his publications, one of which, entitled "A Few Passing Ideas for the Benefit of India and Indians," is especially worthy of perusal, both on account of its sound practical sense and for the clear evidence it affords of the lofty character of the writer. In this selection of his correspondence, Manockjee Cursetjee first mentions his attempts at introducing female education amongst his family, and the gratification it would afford him of seeing his example imitated throughout India. The lady who had the honour of first aiding this movement was a Miss Bruton, an English governess, of whom he speaks as a person of great talent, who visited India for the express purpose of instructing Parsee ladies and children. The correspondence on this question with well-known Anglo-Indian Government officials is deeply interesting and instructive, as also is that on the Moral Regeneration of India, addressed to the Chairman of the Select Committee of Parliament appointed to inquire into the operation of an Act of William IV., "For the better Government of his Majesty's Indian Territories." In speaking of the natives of India, Manockjee Cursetjee says that no language but their own could describe some of their shameful natures; and he maintains that the first requirement is "to bring about a change in relation to their ideas of morality, ways of thinking, and modes of acting in the ordinary affairs of life."

The leading act of this benevolent Parsee's life, and that by which he is most widely known and beloved, is his long and unwearied effort to educate and elevate his countrywomen. This noble effort he has successfully—although necessarily on a limited scale—carried out by founding, at



ATTACK BY INSURGENTS ON THE CAPITOL AT ROME ON OCT. 22.



THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AND SUITE SHOOTING AT COMPIÈGNE.

Dombay, a school for giving English education to native girls in that Presidency. None but those who are fully aware of the immense difficulty besetting such a design can form an estimate of the labour involved and the faith required in developing it; and none but those can fully appreciate the efforts of this eminently practical reformer. It was not until after waiting nearly twenty years that he found any of his countrymen sharing his views on female education and willing to co-operate with him in so novel an experiment as the giving their daughters an English education. This noble enterprise he commenced in apartments in his own house, under European governesses, his daughters volunteering to superintend it. On this movement his Excellency the Governor (Lord E. P. P. P.) made the public observation that "Mr. Manockjee Cursetjee had set an excellent example to his countrymen by educating his own daughters, and had set on foot a plan for establishing a school for native young ladies, under the direction of an English governess;" his Excellency continuing, "It would be difficult to overrate the importance of such a movement as this in support of female education—proceeding, as it does, from the natives themselves." In June, 1863, Manockjee Cursetjee lost his eldest son, Herajee; and on the third day after his death there was a gathering of the relatives and friends of the deceased, as is usual among high Parsee families, to contribute towards some religious or benevolent institution. On this day, called the *Outhind* day of the deceased, Manockjee subscribed 4000 rupees, other subscribers making the total sum 60,000 rupees; with which money it was proposed by the bereaved parent to found "The Alexandra Native Girls' English Institution"—a name chosen in honour of her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, then recently united in marriage to the Prince of Wales. Thus the bereavement of Manockjee accelerated the completion of his benevolent project, that project itself commemorating an event auspicious to the British empire. Shortly after the founding of this institution a volume containing its proceedings was forwarded to the Queen at Windsor, to which her Majesty graciously replied, through the late Colonel Phipps, assuring the founder that she "very highly appreciates the loyal motives which stimulated his celebration of the wedding day of the Prince and Princess of Wales; and that her Majesty is particularly pleased to hear he had honoured this day by commencing, in honour of it, the benevolent work of establishing an English school for the native women in the neighbourhood over which his good influence extends." The most kindly replies were also received by Manockjee Cursetjee from their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, who "expressed their sympathy with the domestic affliction which, as he said, so far from impeding, proved a melancholy incentive to the benevolent work, and that it was peculiarly gratifying to the Princess that the institution should bear her name." This institution is now progressing in the most favourable manner as a fitting reward to the services of its founder and as an encouragement to others never to be weary in well-doing.

In the summer of 1865 Mr. Manockjee Cursetjee distributed the Government prizes to the School of Art, in the Hartley Hall, at Southampton. On that occasion a vote of thanks to Mr. Manockjee was proposed, and carried with acclamation, to which he replied with much feeling and modesty, acknowledging, in reference to his own labours, "that he was impressed with a deep sense of gratitude for all that had been so kindly expressed towards him, as well as a deep sense of his responsibility. It was no light task to work a change in the destinies of people wedded to bigotry and superstitious habits, engrafted, as it were, in their very nature. For the result of what a man might do, or attempt to do, he must not look to his individual efforts, without respect to a power above; for we are all agents in the hands of that great Providence which rules the destinies of nations, and individuals among them might be selected to perform their parts."

From this brief recital of the career of this eminent native of India there is much to cheer the hopeful believer in the world's progress and destiny. A contemplation of that vast continent, with its two hundred millions of inhabitants steeped in Oriental superstition, and in a state of moral slavery, is well nigh overwhelming to the reflecting mind; but, with an example so bright and influential, who dares despair of the ultimate regeneration of this great portion of the British empire?

Judge Manockjee is about to return to India. On Thursday week he had the honour of a special presentation to the Queen at Windsor, in order to give her Majesty an opportunity of personally expressing her satisfaction with what this educationalist has done, and has been the means of doing, for the good of his country.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AT COMPIEGNE.

THE Kaiser, during his late sojourn in France, attended, as our readers are already aware, a grand battue at St. Germain. He has also had a day's shooting at Compiègne, during which he brought down about 600 head of game—nearly 200 more than he slew at St. Germain. Such destruction as this by one hand altogether surpasses the exploits of the most renowned sportsmen. His Majesty was accompanied by the Emperor of the French. It is said that, as the two Sovereigns were intent on their sport, the Empress rode up rapidly on horseback, accompanied by the two Austrian Archdukes. Her Majesty handed her august husband a telegram which had just arrived from Paris: it announced the defeat of Garibaldi. The French Emperor read it with a smile, announced its contents, and then began blazing away at the pheasants again, just as his own troops had been blazing away at the Italian peasants.

The Emperor Francis Joseph returned to Vienna on the 8th. He was received with every token of welcome. All the public bodies turned out to meet him, and the Burgomaster delivered an address, the purport of which was that the Emperor's speech in Paris had been read with delight in Vienna, chiefly because it promised a policy of peace. The Emperor replied, declaring that he would do all he could to bring Austria back to her former position by cultivating unity at home and peace with all foreign countries.

DOGS.—The reduced dog tax seems likely to be better collected than the higher duty has been. The tax on dogs in England was assessed on only 301,281 dogs in 1856; in 1866 the number had increased to 358,472, and 79,281 dogs were returned by surveyors of taxes as exempt. Between April 6 and July 31, 1867, 656,977 dog licenses were taken out; 267,775 were granted by stamp distributors, and 229,203 by officers of Excise. In Scotland only 36,365 dogs were assessed to taxation in the year ending May 24, 1866, and 44,555 were returned by surveyors of taxes as exempt; between May 25 and July 31, 1867, 88,481 dog licenses were granted.

LORD MAYOR'S SHOW.—The Lord Mayor's Show last Saturday was, as we informed our readers it would be, shorn of all the accessories which have hitherto made it so attractive to the roughs of London. The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs simply drove in their carriages to Westminster with scarcely any attendants. There was not even continuity in the so-called procession, and the business of the City was hardly impeded. Lord Mayor Allen, who has had the courage to make this improvement, was vigorously hissed by the disappointed roughs as he drove rapidly along. The banquet in the evening was a brilliant affair. Very wisely, the fine proportions of the Guildhall were not disguised by any so-called decorations. There was plenty of light, abundance of colour, many ladies, sufficient room, and a capital repast. Lord Derby was prevented by gout from being present, but Mr. Disraeli was in great force, and several of his colleagues in the Ministry were also present. No one, however, said anything worthy of notice.

THE REPRESENTATION OF STROUD.—Mr. Horsman has issued an address to the electors of Stroud, in which—alluding to certain "secret organisations" which he says have been carried on in the borough with the view of substituting a candidate in his place at the next general election—he says:—"A general election under the new Reform Act cannot possibly take place until the year after next, and your representatives must then be chosen by a new constituency. The existing constituency has, in the meanwhile, been pronounced incapable, and virtually deposed, while the new one to which the power has to be transferred can have no legal existence for another twelve months. It is, therefore, quite obvious that the time has not yet come to deal afresh with the representation of the borough." He, therefore, deprecates any attempt to "anticipate and usurp the nomination of a candidate" at the present time, and adds, "I cannot recognise the right of anyone to interpose between the future constituency and their free choice of future representatives, and I feel confident that the good sense and spirit of the electors will reject any attempt to embarrass them by premature movements and pledges." He concludes by announcing his intention to appear as a candidate at the next election.

PARIS GOSSIP.

Is there to be a Congress or not? that is the question. The Foreign Office here, after having sounded the other Governments, has sent out formal invitations to assemble on the affairs of Rome. Whether these doctors will meet or not is a matter of doubt; but suppose they do? What are the hopes of a patient when half a dozen physicians are called in? In the vulgar but—I have written but, and it ought to be and—expressive phrase—he is a "gone coon." France wants to divide the responsibility, that is all.

If Rome be to Italy an *imperium in imperio*, which she must get rid of by absorbing, I must tell you that, except among the extreme hot-headed republicans, the duplicity of the Florence Government has caused disgust and scorn. If it had been successful, indeed! You know how success covered Cavour's sins in this way. But to be detected in a cheat and defeated, that is the humiliation. Public feeling is as strong on this point as on that other in General de Failly's report, where he gleefully exclaims that the Chas-eps have done wonders on the poor Garibaldians. Even M. Louis Veuillot, the man who is more Papist than the Pope himself, is somewhat revolted by this cold-blooded phrase; and people ask whether it was to try the new muskets on the *corpus vile* of the volunteers that the French went to Rome or to safeguard the Holy See.

The last note in the *Moniteur* is very singular in this, that it congratulates the Italian Government on withdrawing its troops within its own frontiers "spontaneously." Spontaneously! What, then, was the influence of the French corps at Rome and Viterbo, and at Mentana? You know the old story about the burglar faced on the top of the garden wall. "Where are you going?" "Back again." Of course that was a spontaneous movement *en retraite*. But what does the *Moniteur* mean by this superfluous courtesy to Italy? People ask themselves this; and, when they think of the items in the next budget for the expenditure on the expedition from Toulon, they wonder whether it has been incurred simply for the sake of hunting a few thousand Garibaldians out of the Papal States and seeing the Italian troops spontaneously retiring. If the Pope is to be protected at this expenditure, let the business be done thoroughly.

There is an Emperor in France and an Emperor in Paris, but the former is the more potent of the two. Haussmann has had to haul down his flag. A sturdy industrial, M. Dubois-Caplain, an iron-founder in the suburbs, has humbled the pride of the great Prefect. It was a sort of Hampden-and-Charles-I. conflict in a small way. Haussmann imposed an octroi duty without asking any man's leave. M. Dubois-Caplain would not pay. With the endurance of a Friend who sees his tables and chairs sold for church rates, he assisted at the auction of his stock-in-trade for the octroi. His workmen bought the things and made him a present of them; and two days after Napoleon sent for Haussmann, gave him a sharp earwigg, and told him this must not happen again. The result is that the magnificent Baron has had to eat dirt before M. Dubois-Caplain. The same Baron has ordered the bakers to sell bread, best quality, at 50c. the kilogramme—which, being interpreted, means 9d. the 4lb. loaf—and he, the said Haussmann, will graciously compensate them for what they might otherwise lose by paying them the difference out of the octroi tax on flour. And you English still go on quoting that absurd sentence from Sterne—"They manage these matters better in France!"

The Emperor of Austria, profuse as he was with his money here, could never vulgarise it; but what has he not done with his orders of the Iron Crown and of Francis Joseph? Why, he has scattered these decorations broadcast among the official and semi-official newspaper writers. No fewer than fifteen have been thus disposed of. If poor M. Sol, late of the *Courier Français*, had not been rash he might have rejoiced in a ribbon. This gentleman fell foul of M. d'Aulnay, of the *Figaro*; the usual amount of polite abuse was exchanged; M. d'Aulnay produced a record from the Ministry of Marine which showed that Sol, nine years since, being then a midshipman, stole his comrade's watch *pour les beaux yeux d'une belle*, and that he was thereby compelled to resign from motives of health. Irritated by this exposure, M. Sol waylays the editor of *Figaro*, and attempts to punch his head, but receives for his pains a sound drubbing. Then he writes to his own journal a contrite letter, confessing his youthful peccadillo, and incontinently goes and blows out all the brains he had. This is only one among the many Paris modes.

CONSERVATIVE BANQUET AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—A great Conservative Working Men's Banquet, under the auspices of the London and Westminster Constitutional Working Men's Association, took place on Monday at the Crystal Palace. It was a perfect success—that is to say, some 1500 people, who had had for the most part tickets given to them, were present. But the were scarcely a dozen working men there. Two working men were put up to speak, but one of them had to be put down by the brass band. Mr. R. N. Fowler presided, and Lord John Manners was the principal speaker. Mr. Mowbray, the Judge Advocate General, also made a speech.

MR. MURPHY AND THE ORANGEMEN OF BLACKBURN.—Mr. Murphy had a great day at Blackburn last Saturday. The Orangemen around Blackburn assembled in crowds, and it is stated that they and their friends to the number of 10,000 marched in procession. Mr. Murphy walked at their head with a pistol in one hand and a sword in the other. Every preparation had been made to meet a possible disturbance. Three hundred special constables had been sworn in, and arrangements made for obtaining the assistance of the military; but all passed off quietly.

KILLING THE FATTED CALF.—A son who had been cut off with the historic angry shilling by his father recently became aware that his parent was to give a great dinner, in consequence of some successful speculations on 'Change. As the guests sat down to dinner, cook after cook arrived laden with various prepared joints of veal. To these succeeded tailor after tailor, with their newest styles. In vain the father protested he did not order these things, which cooks and tailors admitted, but said his son had. Later in the evening the son presented himself, and said he anticipated his father would forgive his prodigal son, and to save trouble had ordered the fatted calf and raiment in advance. Cooks and tailors were compensated, and the prodigal forgiven.—*Court Journal*.

PARLIAMENTARY CHANGES DURING THE RECESS.—Although only a few weeks have elapsed since Parliament was prorogued, on Aug. 21, several changes have taken place in both Houses, and several new peers will be seen on the reassembling of the Legislature next Tuesday. In the House of Commons, Lord Hubert de Burgh Canning (a son of the Marquis of Clanricarde) has been elected member for the county of Galway, in the room of his brother, Lord Dunkellin, who died a few days before the prorogation. On the day of prorogation Mr. Winterbottom, barrister (Liberal), was declared duly elected for Stroud, in the room of Mr. Poulett Scrope, who had accepted the Chiltern Hundreds, after a sharp contest with Mr. Dorington, who fought the battle for the Conservatives. Mr. Warren, Q.C., the Attorney-General for Ireland, has been elected member for the University of Dublin, in the room of Mr. Chatterton, who has been appointed a Vice-Chancellor. A vacancy has been occasioned in the representation of the county of Rutland by the elevation of the Hon. G. H. Heathcote to the Peerage on the death of his father, Lord Aveland, and the election of his successor will take place in the course of a few days. Two seats have become vacant by death—one for Manchester, by the death of Mr. Edward James, Q.C., and one for South Leicestershire, by the death of Mr. C. W. Packer. These vacancies will be filled up without delay, under the authority of the Speaker's warrant. In the House of Lords there are still more changes. It has lost Lord Kingsdown, who leaves no successor to his peerage. The Duke of Northumberland died on Aug. 21, and Earl Percy, for many years known as Lord Lovaine in the House of Commons, has succeeded to the dukedom. The Hon. Reginald Abbot will take his seat as Lord Colchester in the room of his father, who died on Oct. 18. The Hon. Francis W. Fitzhardinge will take his place as Baron Fitzhardinge in the room of his father, who died on Oct. 17. The Hon. Arthur Wrottesley will take his seat as Lord Wrottesley in the room of his father, who died on Oct. 27. Lord Oxmantown will take his seat as the Earl of Rosse, in the room of his father, who died on Oct. 31. The Hon. Gilbert H. Heathcote will take his seat as Baron Aveland, in the room of his father, who died on Sept. 6. The Earl of Annesley will be entitled to take his seat, having been elected an Irish representative peer in the room of the Earl of Mayo, deceased. Dr. T. L. Cloughton, recently consecrated Bishop of Rochester, will take his seat as junior Bishop, vice the late Dr. John Lonsdale, Bishop of Lichfield, on the principal of rotation provided by the Manchester Bishops' Act. The Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of Down and Connor, the Bishop of Ossory, and the Bishop of Cork, who were the Irish representative prelates last Session, will be succeeded by the Archbishop of Armagh, the Bishop of Meath, the Bishop of Killaloe, and the Bishop of Kilmore. The death of the Earl of Moray causes another change in the Upper House.

THE PICTURES AT THE FRENCH GALLERY, FALL-MALL.

THE Winter Exhibition at the French Gallery this season is one of the best that has been seen for years, not because it contains two or three pictures that assert pre-eminence over the rest and form the principal attraction, but in consequence of there being so large a number of works considerably above the average. There are some, it is true, which challenge immediate notice; but they are not for that reason the best; one or two of them are among the least favourable examples of modern art in the whole collection.

We do not say this of Mrs. Hay's Florentine procession, which begins the catalogue, for it is an attempt at something higher than the merely conventional medieval compositions which are so familiar to connoisseurs; it is an attempt, but it is not altogether a success—first, because the subject necessitates too long a story; and, secondly, because it is often too fantastical for ordinary comprehension. Relating as it does to the burning of the vanities, in 1497, there was room for a great deal of fancy; but here it is very crude fancy, and the figures, somehow, do not seem to belong to the same locality. It is an ambitious work, however, and cannot fail to attract a great deal of attention from the very originality which it displays in the midst of much that is of quite a conventional type.

Of figure-subjects there is so much variety that the modern school of art in this branch may be said to be fully represented; and the visitor would do well to give attention to many pictures of the domestic cabinet kind which will repay even stooping to look into. Among these is "A Careful Nurse," by Mr. F. Johnson, simply a little girl feeding a doll with a spoon, but with a great deal of quiet story-telling power indicated thereby. Of a different order of art is Mr. C. J. Staniland's "Ennui," representing a Belinda of the last century tired to death even before she begins her day. One rarely sees such exquisite rendering of brocade, and old china, and little accessory roses in a vase, all distinguished by separate texture, and all with a finish absolutely marvellous. M. Bayschloz has contributed a picture, "The First Whisper of Marriage," which is good enough to make us wonder why he should have produced such raw, chalky flesh tints as are shown in his other work. For marvellous flesh-handling, however, commend us to Mr. Erskine Nicol's "Old-hand Tying Flies." Such a canny, puckered, humorous, grimy face, so full of expression in its network of wrinkles! That and Faed's "Poor Man's Friend" are great attractions, and may be profitably contrasted with "The Breton Peasant Girl" of Mr. W. Bouguereau as showing how differently faces may be rendered, or rather what a mistake it is to treat flesh in one conventionally false way. Of summer and autumn landscape and wood scenery we are favoured with several fine examples; and perhaps "The Woodcutters" of Mr. J. Linnel, sen., may bear the palm for the exquisite rendering of that red and gold billowy foliage. Mr. T. S. Cooper's "On the Coast," however, is a notable bit of down, with such sheep as only Mr. Cooper can paint. One of the most healthy bits of colour and sky in the room is M. Lebour's "Halting Place," a desert scene with the rare merit of being unexaggerated into dark lake and fiery crimson and gleaming purple streaks. It is the desert of nature, and is a very good picture indeed, depending on its own artistic merits instead of on false scenic effect. Mr. C. E. Johnson's "Sheep-washing" is another pleasant bit of landscape, with a charming sense of shade amidst brightness. We want to be there, and can fancy the heat out in the open meadows even on this dull November day as we stand before the canvas. Mr. Leader's "Autumn Evening" is a capital work, and leads one back to take another look at that glorious picture, "A Summer's Afternoon—Cattle Reposing," one of Mr. T. S. Cooper's best bits, and full of such a splendid golden haze and such a sense of rest that one turns away satisfied and unwilling to spoil the latest effect before leaving the gallery.

KRUPP, of Essen, has orders on hand for guns to the aggregate number of 2200 and the total value of £600,000. Krupp has now turned out altogether 3500 steel guns, of the value of £1,050,000.

THE NEW BILL ON THE FRENCH PRESS.—It is announced that the French Government is decided on suppressing absolutely, in the new bill on the Press, the stipulation according to which any individual condemned for attacks on the rights and the authority devolving on the Emperor from the Constitution may be condemned to the loss of his electoral right for a period of five years. The committee charged with the examination of the bill had proposed that this judgment should only be pronounced in the case of a repetition of the offence within two years of the first condemnation. The Council of State had rejected that amendment, and the committee maintained it. The suppression of the article settles the question in a liberal sense.

THE NEW IRISH REPRESENTATIVE PEER.—Lord Dunboyne, who has been appointed an Irish representative peer, in the room of the Earl of Rosse, deceased, was born Feb. 11, 1806, and succeeded his father in 1850. This is a branch of the ancient house of Fitz-Walter-le-Butcher. The fourth Lord Dunboyne was outlawed, as likewise was his successor, the fifth Baron. On the death of the twelfth Baron the present peer's father established his descent from the second Baron, and obtained the reversal of the outlawries by the special intervention of the Crown, in 1827. The twelfth Baron was Roman Catholic Bishop of Cork, but on inheriting the peerage renounced the Church of Rome.

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—By the opening of Parliament on the 19th instant the approaches through New Palace-yard, though not entirely complete, will be available for the use of members and the public. A wide flight of steps leads from Westminster Bridge, at the foot of the Clock-tower, into the groined arcade or cloister in New Palace-yard, which affords a covered access to the House. It is intended eventually to prolong this passage under Bridge-street to the Thames Embankment and the railway station of the Metropolitan District Railway about to be built upon it. New entrances for foot passengers have been formed at the angle of New Palace-yard, opposite to Parliament-street, and the carriage entrance remains in its former position in the centre of the west side. The statue of Sir R. Peel is to be placed between the two carriage-gates, and a statue of Lord Palmerston is to occupy the corner opposite to Parliament-street.

FATAL RAILWAY COLLISION.—A serious and fatal collision occurred on the Midland Railway, on Monday evening, at the Swinderby station, which is situated midway between Lincoln and Newark. It appears that at 8.40 a coal-train was shunting to allow what is termed the fish-train, from Lincoln, to pass, and while doing so the train referred to came up at the usual speed and dashed into the coal-train. The driver and stoker of the fish-train were killed, and the guard of the same train and the fireman of the coal-train and several passengers seriously injured. Neither of the engines were thrown off the rails, but the damage done to the carriages was of such a serious character that, although assistance was telegraphed for from Nottingham, Lincoln, and Newark, only one track had been cleared for the traffic at five o'clock on Tuesday morning. There was a dense fog prevailing, but it is not known at present whether that, or the signalman failing in his duties, was the cause of the accident.

THE WALRUS IN REGENT'S PARK.—In 1853 the Zoological Society of London received a living specimen of a walrus, which had been brought home in a vessel engaged in the seal-fishery on the coast of Spitzbergen, by Captain Henry, of Peterhead. This animal, however, was in a moribund state on its arrival, and lived only a few days in the gardens. Since that time the council of the society have made many attempts to obtain another example of this interesting animal; but it was only last week that their efforts were crowned with success, and a second live walrus received in the society's gardens. This present animal, which gives every sign of strong health, feeds well, principally on mussels and whelks denuded of their shells, with an occasional diet of more solid material in the shape of fish. It was captured in Davis's Straits, by Captain Richard Wells, of the steam-whaler Arctic, belonging to Messrs. Alexander Stephen and Co., of Dundee, on Aug. 28 last. A herd of from 200 to 300 of these animals was met with, on the ice, by the Arctic, in lat. 69 deg. N., long. 61 deg. W. A boat's crew landed on the ice, and the herd was attacked and several individuals were killed, among which was a large female. The body of the latter being attached to the rest, and towed towards the vessel, was followed by a young male, who swam and dived around, and refused to quit his deceased parent. This being noted, he was captured by a noose swung over his head and one forelimb from the ship, and hauled on board. For some days the captive was kept tied to a ring-bolt on deck, and refused food altogether. Subsequently, it was induced to swallow thin slices of boiled pork, and was thus fed until the vessel reached the Shetlands, when a supply of fresh mussels was provided for its use. A large box with openings at the sides was fabricated, and the animal, secured therein, was brought safely into Dundee on the 16th inst. From that port to London the walrus was conveyed in the steamer Anglia, under the care of the society's experienced superintendent, Mr. A. D. Bartlett. The walrus is a male, with partially-developed tusks, about the same size as the sea-bear lately in the society's gardens, but more bulky in appearance. Although probably not a year old, it is 8 ft. long, and weighs, perhaps, 2½ cwt. Its arrival in the Zoological Society's Gardens will, no doubt, attract a host of visitors. The sum given for it is stated to have been £200.

Literature.

A Life's Secret. By Mrs. HENRY WOOD, Author of "East Lynne," &c. London: Charles W. Wood.

Whatever Mrs. Henry Wood writes is generally worth reading; and that is especially the case with the book before us. The story originally appeared in the *Leisure Hour* some years ago, and has been reprinted in accordance with earnest solicitations from a variety of persons. Mrs. Wood states that she resisted the desire expressed to her for a republication of the book for a considerable time; but that recent events had given a special and peculiar interest to the story, and therefore she has yielded. The events alluded to are the late disclosures connected with the doings of trades unions, and certainly fully justify the step our authoress has taken, though we cannot see that any apology for that step was at all needed. "A Life's Secret" is designed to illustrate the evils that invariably result from strikes, the incidents having reference to the great strike and lock-out in the building trades of London a few years ago. The knavery of the leaders, personified in Sam Shuck, commonly called "Slippery Sam," from his continual trick of slipping out of employment, is well depicted, and with very little colouring or exaggeration. Sam is a good-for-nothing fellow, who does not like work, and can never keep a situation, but who does like beer and tobacco and good living. He has a great "gift of the gab," and acquires a certain amount of power over the more influenceable portion of his fellow-workmen. This procures him the post of agent and agitator for the trades unions in the "nine-hours movement," which he uses, of course, to work mischief among the workpeople resident in a region called Daffodil's Delight, in the neighbourhood of which are situated the building-yards of the Messrs. Hunter, in whose employment are the bulk of the denizens of Daffodil's. The nine-hours movement commences with a strike at another yard—that of Messrs. Pollock—the intention being to follow that step up with a like measure at the other building yards in the metropolis. To counteract this, the masters resolve upon a general lock-out, which continues for some time, when the yards are again opened, and the men allowed to resume work on condition of signing a declaration that they will have nothing to do with trades unions in future; the final result being, that the men are defeated, and such as can find it are glad to return to work on the masters' terms. This, the reader who recollects the circumstances will perceive, is an almost exact epitome of the facts connected with the strike and lock-out in the building trades to which we have already referred; the main, perhaps only, difference being that, if we remember rightly, the masters in the end consented to compromise matters so far as to withdraw the obnoxious "document" which finally became the main point of contention. The strike began in August, and lasted far into the winter; and Mrs. Wood has well depicted the general improvidence of the workmen and their families while in prosperity, their mad expectations and unreasoning exultation when the strike was declared, and the misery, wretchedness, and ruin which came upon them while it lasted. In this latter particular especially there is no exaggeration, for the simple reason that it is impossible to exaggerate the degree of mischief that was done. Poverty and ruin were brought upon hundreds of families, from which even yet they may not altogether have recovered; but that was not the worst of the evil, for characters were destroyed, reputations lost, and habits contracted, which no space of time, and no combination of circumstances, can ever restore or correct. All this was the consequence of the action of trades unions and of the agitation and foolish notions they engendered; and that Mrs. Wood has drawn a true picture of the evils caused by that strike and others, thousands of those concerned then and in the recent tailors' strike can testify. It is true that the building operatives have since gained some of the points they then contended for, but that has been the result, not of trades' unions, but of the immense activity that has prevailed in the building trade and the consequent great demand for labour; in other words, to the natural and legitimate action of the laws of supply and demand. But for that activity trades unions would never have obtained for the workman either an advance of wages or a reduction in their working hours, though trades unionists have managed to introduce rules regulating the equalisation of wages, and the quantity of work to be done by each man, which may be of advantage to lazy and bad workmen, but are certainly most injurious to skilful and industrious tradesmen. Let it be understood that neither we nor Mrs. Wood object to trades' unions as defensive organisations (we say nothing about the friendly society phase of the unions, which is a distinct affair altogether, and ought to be kept so). It is against their aggressive, strike-inducing, and tyrannical action that we protest; and that is a thing that is altogether evil. The book contains a story not necessarily connected with the strike, but which serves as a centre round which the incidents of that occurrence are grouped; and the plot of this story contains the "Life's Secret" which gives a title to the work. For that, however, we must refer the reader to the book itself, the main interest of which for us lies in the illustration it affords of the direful effects of strikes and of the baleful influence of trades unions and the agitation and disturbance caused by fellows of the "Slippery Sam" type—a class of men only too numerous and too influential among our hard workers. It is satisfactory to know that justice overtakes Sam. He incites his dupes to commit an assault upon a recalcitrant workman, in which he is indiscreet enough to take a leading part, and, though disguised, is identified, and gets six months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for his pains. If Mrs. Wood's book does not tend to eradicate the cowardice, folly, and slavish submission to lazy agitators among working men, all we can say is, that it ought to do so, for it is at once well-written, effective, and truthful.

Webbs in the Way. By GEORGE MANVILLE FENN, Author of "Bent Not Broken," &c. 3 vols. London: Tinsley Brothers.

In "Webbs in the Way" Mr. Fenn has made a great improvement on his former novel. There is a stronger and more engaging story, and a steady coherence of incident not often to be found. The "main line" of the plot will be eagerly followed, and the "branch line" perhaps too less so by many readers; but it is necessary, for the sake of critical prudence, to show how that "branch line" is somewhat unwarrantable and inartistic. Indeed, to pursue the simile, the novel-reader, or shareholder, might fairly charge the novel-writer, or director, with a very lavish waste of literary capital; but, still, it must be confessed that the unprofitable work is skilfully performed.

We have Harris and Blanche Morley, left, as the story opens, orphans—a young man and woman with a moderate competency. Blanche is a sufferer—even a cripple; and she has for companion a Mrs. Hester Lavigne, a clever, fascinating widow, who seems to be consuming with a mad passion for the love of Harris Morley. Blanche and others use all their power to prevent a marriage, because they are expecting the return from Australia of Mary and Maud Deane, the daughters of their deceased father's dearest friend and companion-in-arms; and between the parents a kind of understanding has always existed as to a marriage amongst the young people, although the young people only know each other through the medium of correspondence and photography. Now, whatever may be thought of Mr. Fenn's coolness in palming off such a "state of parties" upon the public, nobody will quarrel with him for making Harris Morley utterly indifferent to the paternal arrangement, and returning the love of the lovely and designing Hester Lavigne. Blanche dies, and there seems to be no obstacle to the match, when the widow is found to have a husband living—Captain Verey, alias Danks—as the reader has known all along. Harris Morley of course goes through the requisite number of months' fever and delirium, and then—and then all the usual consequences take place, with a good round complement of retributive justice for a good number of more or less guilty people concerned. Such matters as to how Mrs. Lavigne may be supposed to have murdered Blanche—many things, indeed—do not belong to our purpose, excepting to say that they are fairly done, and will cer-

tainly keep up the interest of the story. So much for the main line. The branch line is this: Major Dean and his daughters leave Australia in a sailing-vessel, and some rough fellows from the diggings turn pirates, seize the ship, and do general murder; but the two girls escape, through the courage of a gallant sailor, who tells the whole story in a series of chapters entitled the "Log of John Franks." In these chapters Mr. Fenn has put forth excellent descriptions, mingled with passages of tenderness and devotion, of ruffianism and passion, which are certainly of the Victoria Theatre kind, but which will very likely be well taken by people who care about ships, pirates, and innocence in danger. But we are certain that, throughout three volumes, to have alternate chapters of domestic plotting and murderous piracy, produces a very ludicrous effect. The fact is, the ship affair might have formed another book altogether, or might have been jammed up in a page or two in order to account for the girls' long absence. We like Mr. Fenn's characters very much, and think them as true to nature as "characters" usually are; and they ought to be, for some of them have had long, long experience. Perhaps, before Mr. Fenn gives us another Captain of Dragoons, he will get an invitation to some officers' mess-room; he will there find that officers of dragoons are thoroughly well-educated gentlemen, who do not use such language as "Taint likely" and "Botheration." And, perhaps, when in future his hero runs for a doctor he will not have all the doctors in the neighbourhood out, and the hero battling with stormy weather at every street corner. It is "word-painting," it leads to nothing, and detains the reader three or four pages.

The Charitable Trusts Acts, 1853, 1855, 1860; the Charity Commissioners Jurisdiction Act, 1862; the Roman Catholic Charities Acts; together with a Collection of Statutes relating to or affecting Charities, including the Mortmain Acts, &c. By HUGH COOKE and L. G. HARWOOD, of the Charity Commission. Second Edition. London: Stevens and Haynes.

To all who are interested in charities—and they are to be found all over the land—this compilation of the Charitable Trusts Acts, with other matters affecting them, may be strongly recommended. The work does not profess to be a treatise upon the several Acts included in it. It is a collection of statutes, and parts of statutes, to which those for whose assistance it has been prepared must have constant occasion to refer. These are followed by a concise epitome of the most important judicial decisions in charity cases which have been given since the year 1853; the minutes of the Board of Charity Commissioners, under the Charitable Trusts Act, 1860; and some useful tables and precedents. Messrs. Cooke and Harwood have compiled the volume with great care, and placed legal matters in a clear light for non-legal minds. It may tend to a wholesale and wholesome reform of many mismanaged charities, and materially assist the labours of many who have to work—possibly somewhat in the dark—with the Commissioners. As it is, the Charity Commission works well—even Mr. Robert Lowe admitted that, and he is said to be difficult to please; but this work may lead to improvement, and any such endeavour is worthy of encouragement. In addition to the contents described there is a very copious index.

The Romance of Charity. By JOHN DE LIEFDE. London: Alexander Strahan.

This book (confessedly) will be found to contain the substance of the large work, "Six Months Among the Charities of Europe," by the same author. So runs a short notice to the public; and we cannot help thinking that it would have been fairer to the public had the original title been retained. As it is, people who have fallen in love with the subject may be tempted to run after the present book, and find that they already possess all its information in an extended form. The larger work attracted much favourable attention; and there is every reason to think an abridgment a "good move." Here are records of good and great men, who founded noble institutions, and made their own virtues their own rewards. There is a German simplicity of style about the pages which is anything but displeasing; and, whilst there is a large supply of true reverence, there is little or no cant. The book is illustrated with some well-executed wood engravings, and in general appearance seems thoroughly adapted to the coming season.

A Walk from London to the Land's End and Back, with Notes by the Way. By ELIHU BURRITT. New Edition, with Illustrations. London: Sampson Low and Co.

This is a second and handsome edition of a very interesting work, which was noticed in these columns on its first appearance. Those who have not already read it will do well to make acquaintance through its pages with the genial and kindly old American gentleman, Elihu Burritt, blacksmith, author, and hearty, yet not intolerant, advocate of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks. Mr. Burritt is a keen observer, a patient inquirer, and a good describer. He is, moreover, while never glozing over what is faulty in what he sees and hears, always inclined to take the best view of people and their doings, and to find "good in everything." A more agreeable companion in a journey to the Land's End, or anywhere else, could not be found. The reader should not forget that this volume contains only one half of the author's observations in Great Britain, "A Walk from London to John O'Groat's" having furnished materials for a separate work, to which this may be considered a sequel.

The Purgatory of Peter the Cruel. By JAMES GREENWOOD. Illustrated by Ernest Griset. London: Routledge and Sons.

The Bear King. A Narrative confined to the Marines. By JAMES GREENWOOD. With Illustrations by Ernest Griset. London: Griffith and Farran.

These are a couple of volumes of the same class as those which Messrs. Greenwood and Griset have been in the habit of concocting together for some two or three years past, and which have met with great success with the public. Rigidly speaking, these books are mere extravaganzas, crammed with most excellent nonsense; the stories they tell are simple impossibilities; but the fooling is admirable on the part both of author and artist, and there is, moreover, something of a moral taught in each. But fun is their main element and object, and there is plenty of it. The thing is well done, and seems to please public taste; but will that last? Perhaps not; meanwhile here is good laughing to be got for small outlay.

Alwyn Morton: His School and Schoolfellows. A Tale of St. Nicholas Grammar-School. With Illustrations. London: Sampson Low and Co.

Year after year, as Christmas time approaches, do books precisely like the present crowd on the attention of parents, guardians, and other victims to expected present-making. Perhaps the books wear out in a year—they have been known to do so in less in a well-remembered boyhood—and therefore it is necessary to renew them every time Christmas comes. Here, then, is the old, old story of the gentle young boy, with all his mother's teaching strong upon him, falling amongst a number of lads, good, bad, and indifferent, who give him the usual treatment which most of us remember. Alwyn Morton, however, converts most of these young scamps by his manliness and goodness of heart; talking to them, though, rather more in the style of a "religious-tract" hero than could have been agreeable. But the whole effect of the little story is very good. There is plenty of country life in it, and the usual quantity of "moving accidents" for the young gentleman. Some fair pictures adorn the volume.

ILLNESS OF MR. FECHTER.—On Monday night a painful excitement was created in the Lyceum Theatre by the sudden indisposition of Mr. Fechter. The tragedy of "Hamlet" had proceeded to the close of the second act when Mr. Fechter, who was playing the principal character, was taken so ill that he was compelled to leave the stage. After a short interval, Mr. Fechter, who took the part of Claudius, came before the audience, and begged for the immediate assistance of any medical man who might be present. Mr. Fechter, not recovering, was removed to his home, and, with the sanction of the house, Mr. Ryder took up the part of Hamlet. Mr. Fechter is so far recovered from his sudden attack of illness that it is expected he will be able to make his appearance again in the course of a few evenings.

COUNTRY WORKHOUSE INFIRMARIES.

THE *Lancet* continues its reports on the country workhouse infirmaries by describing that of Walsall, in Staffordshire. A curious and instructive example of the efficacy of inspectors' reports is presented in the fact that the tramp-wards were reported bad and insufficient in the year 1847, and that they remain exactly in the same state now, no further complaints having at any time been made. The original complaint was, indeed, well founded. The male ward is a narrow, barnlike building, only 8 ft. wide. Within it is something like a hound-kennel, though neither half so clean nor comfortable. It is paved with rough brick, and there is a small window for ventilation at the side. There are two wooden shelves across the end, one above the other. The lower is 3 ft. and the upper 6 ft. from the ground, and on them the unfortunate vagrants are supposed to sleep, under cover of a dirty rug. The only accommodation is a filthy-looking iron bucket, sprinkled with carbolic acid, and inclosed by the present master in a wooden box. This ward, in the opinion of the medical officer, is fitted to contain seven inmates; but the average is much more, and on several occasions twenty-seven tramps have been locked in without food or light, or any means of communication with the officers outside. Imagination cannot picture the fearful Pandemonium on such occasions; and this state of things has existed for twenty years. For many years the workhouse has been reported "satisfactory"; inquiries made into the several wards elicited no causes of complaint; and the wards, offices, and yards were always clean. Notwithstanding that sickness had taken the place of idleness, the workhouse test was still maintained, and the dietary and rules enforced. The poor old women may not smuggle in a teapot to make themselves a quiet cup of tea; they must be contented with the workhouse sops, which if anyone desire to try, let him pour fourteen imperial pints of boiling water on 1 oz. of tea at 1s. 8d. per lb., add 5 oz. of moist sugar and a little skim milk, and taste it if he can. But the local authorities have kindly hearts; they wink at the women's smuggled teapot and give tobacco to the men; they have made the wards look cheerful; they have polished the floors and painted the walls; they have put matting between the beds and curtains to the windows; and at the instigation of the master and surgeon, they have attended to a variety of minor matters, which show that more still would have been done if only they had known how to do it. The Walsall Workhouse, however, only presents an example of cleanliness and order calculated to deceive a superficial observer; and a closer inspection reveals the absence of all essentials for the proper treatment of the sick. The wards are so overcrowded that it is scarcely possible to walk between the beds. The ventilation is defective and ill-arranged. The closets are small, badly ventilated, and open directly on the wards. There are no baths, no day-rooms, no airing ground for convalescents. There is a great deficiency of washing-apparatus. Throughout the whole establishment there was but a single washhand-basin, and it was a mystery to the master how it came there. From the bed-ridden old women down to the infant in arms, every one washes in a wooden bucket. There is no classification of the patients: fever, syphilis, and itch being mixed up in the same ward, and epileptics with the sick. The dispensing arrangements are unsatisfactory, and chamber-potens were found filled with lotion; indeed, it seems scarcely possible that anyone could have visited the wards without discovering causes of complaint. Walsall Workhouse in construction was not so bad as Farnham, and its evils have been modified by a good master, a kindly medical officer, and a board of guardians who complain loudly that the Poor-Law Board is but a drag about their necks. It is certain they have been allowed to slumber in utter ignorance of the defects; but it is hoped that they will take immediate steps to remove them now that they are known.

On Monday evening a meeting was held of the London Workhouse Association, which during the last Session of Parliament was the means of bringing so prominently before the public and the Legislature the defects of the London workhouse infirmaries as to cause a change in the law. The purpose of the meeting on Monday evening was to confer respecting the condition of the country workhouse infirmaries, and to consider whether the association should extend its operations so as to deal with the evils which have been found to exist at Farnham, Bedminster, Clifton, Walsall, and other places. The Rev. Harry Jones presided, and letters were read from his Grace the Archbishop of York; the Hon. Percy Wyndham, M.P.; Mr. H. C. Barclay, M.P.; Mr. Raikes Currie, and Mr. D. Laing, expressing the view that the association, which at the close of last Session was allowed to fall into abeyance, should now be revived and should act on behalf of the sick poor in the country workhouses as it acted last year in London. Lord Grosvenor, M.P., also wrote, giving his cordial approval to this course being adopted, but stating that he could not give the active support he gave last Session, as he intended to leave England for the winter. Mr. Ernest Hart, one of the hon. secretaries, having explained the position of the association to be such that it was competent for it to commence operations at once, he moved, and Mr. Goschen seconded, a resolution to the following effect: "That it is desirable that the sphere of operations of this association be extended to the country workhouses, in order to obtain further inquiry and to assist in obtaining necessary reforms in the management of those houses." After some remarks by Dr. Stallard, who desired to see the association so extend its operations as to include the outdoor sick poor and other questions of poor-law administration, the resolution was carried unanimously. A lengthened conversation followed; and a resolution, which was spoken to by Dr. Stallard, Mr. Ashurst, Dr. Rogers, Dr. Carr, Mr. Goschen, and other gentlemen, was carried, to the effect—"That the action of the association shall at present be directed towards obtaining Governmental inquiry, and, if needful, Parliamentary action, with a view to remedy the existing defects in the country workhouses." Dr. Anstie stated that it had been suggested to him that local associations should be formed in the different towns; and upon this point Mr. Ernest Hart said his experience taught him this would not succeed. The local feeling was too strong in most places; and he instanced the fact that, though he had written to all the medical officers of unions in the kingdom, very few were inclined to speak about their workhouses; and when a medical officer admitted a reporting commissioner to a workhouse, as at Bedminster and Clifton, the guardians said the first reform they needed was to get rid of such a medical officer. The honorary secretaries and honorary treasurer, the only officers of the association, were re-elected to act.

On Wednesday the poor-law inspector, Mr. Lambert, opened an inquiry into the state of the Farnham Workhouse and the treatment of the inmates therein. Statements strongly impugning the humanity, carefulness, and propriety of that treatment having appeared in the *Lancet*, the Poor-Law Board at once determined to adopt this course. Considerable evidence was taken generally, which confirmed the statements made in the *Lancet's* report.

At a meeting of the Sculcoates board of guardians, on Tuesday, the following letter was read from Mr. J. Dix, surgeon to the house:—25, Albion-street, Nov. 11.—To the Board of Guardians.—Gentlemen,—It has been already reported to you that the workhouse is overrun with measles, from which upwards of forty children have been or are suffering, and four or five have died. Yet, in spite of this warning, children from without are still being sent into the house, into the midst of all this contagion and disease. I consider this most unjust and iniquitous, and I hereby record my solemn protest against it. If any of these fresh importations take the disease and die thereof, those who send them surely incur a fearful responsibility—tantamount to manslaughter, in fact."

THE FENIAN TRIALS IN MANCHESTER.—The fifth and last batch of Fenians was arraigned, on Tuesday, at the Manchester Special Commission, on the charge of assaulting the police. It contained the names of seven men who had been tried in the earlier part of the proceedings for the capital offence of murder. A *noße prosequi* was entered against five of them, who were discharged, and the Court proceeded to try the two remaining prisoners, Brannon and Featherstone. When Nugent, one of the discharged prisoners, reached the vestibule, he was arrested by an Irish police-officer, handcuffed, and taken to the railway station en route for Ireland, where he will be charged with treason-felony. The prisoners were found guilty; and they and the others unsentenced were then brought up, and the Judge passed the maximum punishment allowed by law—viz., five years' penal servitude.

THE SCOTTISH HOSPITAL.—It was anticipated that the Prince of Wales would preside at the approaching annual banquet of the Scottish Hospital, to take place on Nov. 30. Owing to other engagements, however, the charity will not be honoured by the presence of his Royal Highness at the next festival, but there is good reason to believe that he will do so on some future occasion. The noble president of the institution, the Duke of Roxburgh, will be the chairman. We also understand that upwards of a hundred noblemen and gentlemen have consented to act as stewards, and many distinguished Scotchmen are expected to be present, and some of them, including Professor Blackie, of Edinburgh, to speak. The great claims which the late depression of trade have brought upon the charity have necessitated Mr. Macrae Moir to issue a special appeal to ladies. The Queen has already sent 100*g.* The next anniversary, the 202*nd*, it is expected will be a very brilliant and successful affair.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF MORAY.—On the 8th inst. John Stuart, twelfth Earl of Moray, died at his residence, Donne Lodge, Perthshire, in his seventy-first year. The deceased peer succeeded to the title on the death of his brother, in 1859, and since coming into possession has taken no part in public life. He served in the Army from 1815 to 1825, and was Vice-Lieutenant of Elginshire. He is succeeded by his younger brother, Archibald George, born 1810, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army. In the present generation we have heard little of the Earls of Moray, but the name is deeply associated with the religious history of the country, the title having been conferred, in 1661, on the illustrious Prior of St. Andrews (afterwards Regent) by his sister, Mary Queen of Scots. While quartering on his shield the red lion of Scotland, the Earl commemorated the religious enthusiasm of his day by taking as his motto "Salus per Christum redemptionem." Locally the name is very familiar, from the fact that a portion of the Moray estate, situated in the north-west of Edinburgh, came to be, within the memory of the present generation, comprehended within the civic territory. The older citizens still remember Moray Park, now built over by Moray-place, and many handsome streets and crescents bearing the family names of the house of Stuart.



VOLUNTEERS OFFERING TO JOIN THE GARIBALDIANS BETWEEN ORTE AND NARNI.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.**THE SITUATION.**

THE Pontifical troops are reoccupying the places of which they were dispossessed by the Garibaldians. They have not only met with no resistance, but at Viterbo and Frosinone are said to have been joyfully received by the inhabitants. Apprehensions are still entertained by the Papal Government of an insurrectionary movement in this capital. Sentinels are posted on many points of the Leonine city, and on the walls. The fortification works are

still being proceeded with. The French troops have as yet made no preparations for their departure, and the arrival of fresh troops at Civita Vecchia continues; 1200 men, 500 horses, and twenty guns having been disembarked there from the 9th to the 10th inst. The Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed a circular to the diplomatic agents of Italy explaining the position of the Roman question, so as to enable the different Powers to judge of the advisability of accepting the proposal of France to meet in conference on the subject.

The French Government has addressed a note to the European Powers proposing a Conference for the solution of the Roman question. The contents of the note are of a very general character, neither place nor time being mentioned, nor any programme laid down.

Demonstrations at Milan and Pavia in favour of the Garibaldians have been suppressed, and order has been restored in both cities. The quiet of Florence has not been disturbed. The Italian Parliament will be convoked in the course of the present month.



THE PLACE DEL POPOLO, ROME, OCCUPIED BY PAPAL TROOPS.



GARIBALDIANS RECROSSING THE ITALIAN FRONTIER.

THE BATTLE OF MENTANA.

The accounts of that last Garibaldian struggle are now before us—the official statements in the Pontifical journals, the despatch of the French Commander-in-Chief, General De Failly, and the authentic accounts of the Italian volunteer leaders. Without placing too implicit a reliance on any of these sources of information, it is not difficult to compare notes, and to read conflicting testimony by the light of the personal narratives of eye-witnesses, so as to steer clear of any error into which the chief authorities may either have fallen or wished others to fall. It is but just we should add that such men as Fabrizi and Missori, who have signed the Garibaldian account, enjoy too high a character, even among their adversaries, to be thought capable of lending their names to deliberate falsehoods.

After four days of inaction at Monte Rotondo, Garibaldi gave orders for the abandonment of that position on Sunday, the 3rd

inst., soon after twelve at noon. The object of this movement was not, as has been asserted, to retire across the frontier into the Italian territory. Had such been his purpose, the Passo di Corese was at hand, only seven or eight miles in his rear. But he was aware that by taking that route he would have fallen in with the Royal Italian troops, and ceased to be a free agent. His march was upon Tivoli, at which place he expected to effect a junction with Nicotera and Pianciani, and, indeed, to concentrate all his bands. He had with him 5000 men and two pieces of artillery, two of the three pieces which had fallen into his hands on the taking of Monte Rotondo the week before. He had foreseen the probability of an encounter in his march. However destitute of political capacity, there is no doubt that he possesses great strategical and tactical ability, and with better training and at the head of regular forces he might have attained the highest distinction no less as a General than as a soldier. His dispositions were made with his usual skill. His force marched

in three bodies, commanded, the first by his son Menotti, the second by the Hungarian Frigessy, the last by the General himself. It was preceded and flanked by flying columns, protecting it against the chances of a sudden attack. In this order the little army proceeded on its way to Tivoli as far as Mentana. This village lies between two and three miles to the south-west of Monte Rotondo; its straggling houses and feudal castle stand at an elevation of 700 ft., and the ground about it is broken up into low hills, gullies, and ravines, overgrown with stunted oak wood—the general features of the higher grounds of the Campagna. Garibaldi's vanguard had reached and passed Mentana, and was struggling across the narrow and woody gorge between it and the adjoining hills, when it was attacked by the enemy. On the night between the 2nd and the 3rd the Pope's forces and those of his French ally had marched out of Rome in two columns. The first consisted of a Pontifical brigade of four battalions, of a squadron



FIRE AT ST MARY'S CRAY, KENT: THE RUINS.

and a half of dragoons, and a battery. The second was made up of a French brigade—"three battalions and a battery," according to Papal accounts—"five battalions," as we learn from French authorities. General Faily computes the whole force at 3000 Pontifical and 2000 French combatants. The former were led by General Kantzler, the latter by General Polhes.

The first impulse of Garibaldi, on the report of the opening musket-shots, was to sally forth and take up his position outside Mentana. He deployed his battalions, directing them to occupy the surrounding heights, and the engagement began all along the line. It is remarkable that, although we are now certain the French had their full share of the action, the Garibaldian leaders left the field at the close of the day without becoming aware of the fact, or even suspecting it. The men they had to deal with are described by them as Pontifical zouaves and chasseurs. The latter had, indeed, demanded the post of honour, and made the first onslaught; but their attack was unsuccessful, and, on the repulse of these first columns, other columns pressed forward in dense serried masses, advancing under cover of an irresistible fire of musketry and artillery. The uniform of the Papal army, as all are aware, differs in nothing but the cockade from that of the French troops, on whose pattern it was organised. Some of the Pontifical soldiers were even provided with breech-loaders; but the men of the Polhes' brigade were all trained to the formidable Chassepot, and the French War Office was only too glad of an opportunity to test the efficiency of that weapon. "The Chassepot," says General Faily, "did wonders." This advantage of arms told even more significantly against the Garibaldians than mere superiority of numbers might have done. Some of the Lombard bersaglieri and of the carabinieri from Leghorn and Genoa—veterans of Garibaldi's former campaigns—might be reckoned fair shots; but the mere mass were not only unskilled, but worn out and half starved—equally unfit to fight or run away.

The positions outside Mentana had to be abandoned. The Garibaldians fell back upon the town and castle. The enemy came up with them and, after a sharp engagement, effected a lodgment in some of the outer buildings; but they were charged with the bayonet and driven back. There was one moment in which the Garibaldians flattered themselves that the day was their own; but the illusion was soon dispelled by fresh battalions of what they call "the Antibes Legion," but what was doubtless the French brigade. Their "arms of precision" bore down all opposition. Mentana became untenable. Garibaldi's guns had fired away seventy rounds—all their ammunition. The signal was given to evacuate the place. The General posted himself on a high ground commanding the road between Mentana and Monte Rotondo, and thus covered the retreat of his shattered battalions, hard pressed by the enemy, a large division of whom followed them all the way to Monte Rotondo, occupied the heights around it, and advanced within rifle-shot of the place. Night fell, however, and left the action undecided. Neither Mentana nor Monte Rotondo had fallen. The French accounts describe both places as of great natural strength, and it is evident that all attempts at storming them were put off to the morrow. On the morrow Mentana hoisted the white flag and surrendered. From Monte Rotondo, Garibaldi with his main force withdrew unmolested in the night and crossed the frontier at Corese. The skirmishing on the 3rd lasted four hours. The Italians acknowledge a loss of 250 dead and wounded, and "several hundred" prisoners. General Faily reckons 600 Garibaldian dead bodies on the battle-field, and estimates the wounded in proportion—a computation which would leave scarcely a single Garibaldian unhurt. The prisoners, according to the same account, amounted to 1600 brought by the conquerors in triumph to Rome, and 700 magnanimously released. On the other side there were fifty to sixty of the French dead and wounded, and three times as many of the Papal troops.

The gallant French army will not feel very proud of the laurels forced upon it by the prudence of General De Faily. Nobody doubted that when it reached Rome the Papal legions, released from garrison duty, would march out against the Garibaldians. There was nothing to object to in that; the champions of the two antagonistic principles of liberty and priest-government might very well fight out their quarrel. But nobody expected to see the French eagles flying in such a fray. It may be joy to Bishop Dupanloup and his friends to think of the havoc made by Chassepot volleys in the ranks of the ill-armed, unfed volunteers who contest a Pontiff's right to govern wrong; but it is shame to soldiers unused to condescend to so feeble a quarry. The fact, revealed by the Papal press and since confirmed by De Faily's own telegram and by evidence from all quarters, was at first denied and laughed at in Florence by the party which habitually postpones every patriotic consideration to its own private ends. The defeat of Garibaldians by Papal troops was rejoiced at by them, because humbling to their political opponents. The case is altered when it is shown that the half-starved Italian irregulars held their ground till assailed by the veteran soldiers of France. The view taken of the action of the 3rd is altogether altered by this revelation. The first French brigade, which fought on the afternoon of the 3rd, was quickly followed by another, sent up in all haste from Civita Vecchia, and marched out from Rome on the morning of the 4th. Five hundred men, who held Mentana during the night after the action, had the honour of surrendering on the following morning to a formidable French force. "Is this what you had to fight with?" said the victors, contemptuously breaking the cheap inferior muskets, hardly fit to carry a ball 300 yards, which had so inadequately contended against the most recent improvements in the art of destruction. They might well wonder at such audacity, but they were bound to admire the spirit that animated the ill-armed boys and civilians who cheerfully ran to the encounter of such overpowering odds.

AFTER THE COMBAT.

A correspondent of the *Post*, who had just visited the battle-field of Mentana, writes:—"After meeting the rearguard, composed of a battalion of the 59th French Regiment, I approached the spot at which the first shots were exchanged between the Zouaves and Garibaldians, about two miles from the little town of Mentana. The little hermitage and chapel on the right of the road had served for the camp hospital, and the ground all along the wall under cover from the firing was drenched with blood and strewn with bloody clothes, torn linen, bandages, and rags of all descriptions, and letters—most of which were written in Dutch, and among which I selected a long copy of verses, which I intend to get translated for me by the first friend I can find with a knowledge of that language—evidently relics of wounded or slain Zouaves. More horrible relics met my sight a few yards further on, where the roads begin to enter the wooded hills which continue as far as Mentana, and which were occupied by the Garibaldians. Under a group of oaks on the right of the road, not far from each other, were three still unburied corpses—fair specimens of the different categories of enthusiasts led by Garibaldi to achieve the unity of Italy. The first was a robust—almost herculean—young peasant, who had evidently not feared exposing himself, for he was literally riddled with balls through his head, his face, his ample breast, and even down to his hip; the round, red holes were visible, but the placid expression of his features indicated no suffering, for his death must have been instantaneous. The plunderers of the dead had left only a shirt on the corpse, which was thus nearly all visible in its vigorous proportions. The next victim was of a much more delicate type. A fair young man with long curling hair, and blue eyes, half open, with the same placid expression as the first. His shirt was open at the breast, which was perforated with balls; a striped flannel tunic and a long pair of fine linen drawers had been left on him; but his stockings and boots were gone, and the whiteness and delicacy of his feet showed that his life had not been one of labour. Who knows to what respectable or noble family he belonged, or what anxious mother's heart was yearning towards him as he lay with his fair face upturned in death to the deep azure sky! The third corpse was that of a fine lad of about seventeen, apparently, whose chin revealed the first signs of incipient virility. He looked like a young artisan, and was completely dressed, with the exception of his shoes, a circumstance perhaps owing to his clothes being saturated with blood from a large wound in his right side, over which his

left hand had closed in death. Signs of the desperate struggle which had taken place were evident all along the road and on both sides through the brushwood and around every farmhouse or building of any kind which could give a momentary shelter or a point of prolonged resistance for the Garibaldians to maintain against their determined and superior foes. The pasteboard cartridges of the Chassepot rifles strewed the road for miles, showing the immense amount of ammunition the French soldiers expended in the course of the engagement; and the effect they produced in determining the fate of the day against the 3000 valorous but undisciplined followers of Garibaldi is acknowledged by impartial Papal officers, who do not pretend that the unaided efforts of the Pope's troops would have proved successful."

GARIBALDI'S ARREST.

A number of friends and companions of Garibaldi, including the Deputies Crispi and Guerzoni, have drawn up a solemn protest against the arrest of the General at Figline. The document is as follows:—

The undersigned friends and comrades of General Garibaldi, witnesses to his arrest at Figline, make this declaration.

At Passo Corese, after having taken part in the dissolution of the corps of volunteers fighting upon Pontifical territory, the undersigned were authorised by General Garibaldi to travel by the special train that had been granted him upon the express condition that he should be conducted in perfect liberty to Florence. During the journey no act, either upon the part of the General or of those by whom he was accompanied, could give any pretext to change the arrangements made for sending on the train to Florence. As a proof of the pacific intentions of General Garibaldi, General Crispi telegraphed at Narni station to the Rubattino Company asking, in the General's name, for a steamer which would carry him from Leghorn direct to Capraia.

At Figline the train was stopped, and Lieutenant-Colonel Camazzi, of the carabinieri, approached General Garibaldi, asking to speak to him alone. The station was militarily occupied by a division of bersaglieri, under the orders of Major Fiastri, and by a strong detachment of carabinieri. A few minutes afterwards the General left the carriage, and we all left with him. We then heard General Garibaldi, in a loud voice, to Colonel Camazzi, "Have you the regular warrant of arrest?" The Colonel replied, "No; I am simply ordered to make the arrest." The General answered, "Then you commit an illegal act. I am not guilty of any hostility against the Italian State or against its laws. I am an Italian deputy, a Roman general, elected by a legally-constituted Government, and an American citizen. As such, and not having been taken in any flagrant offence, I cannot be arrested, and you and those who send you violate the law. But I declare that I will not yield, except to violence; and that, if you wish to arrest me, you will have to carry me by force." At this moment we were all ready to defend the General's person, the law, and good right. The General declared that he would not permit the violence employed towards him to be met by further violence, and that he would never be a party to a conflict with Italian soldiers. "Therefore," he continued, "abandon all idea of resisting in arms. If I had wished to resist by arms I should have begun by making use of those that were at my disposal, in place of giving them up at the frontier." We obeyed. As many spectators had gathered round, in order to avoid any collision and to put an end to a sight so humiliating to the country, Deputy Crispi telegraphed twice to the President of the Council of Ministers demanding, in the name of Italy, a reversal of the order, and affirming that the General only wished to return to his home at Capraia. We asked Colonel Camazzi to afford the delay necessary to receive an answer from Florence, and we also begged him to telegraph himself supporting our request. Colonel Camazzi, however, positively refused to accede to this latter request.

About an hour having passed without any telegraphic reply being received from Florence, the Colonel of the carabinieri declared that the time had come to carry out his orders. Notwithstanding the statement, several times repeated, of General Garibaldi, that he was fatigued, ill, exhausted by several days' privation, and that he could not endure the serious trial of a fresh journey, the Colonel remained inexorable. Four carabinieri approached the General, and the non-commissioned officer by whom they were commanded invited him in the name of his superiors to follow. The General persisting in his first determination, was lifted up by the carabinieri, carried from the spot where he was seated in the waiting-room, and thus transported, amidst the most solemn silence of his friends, to the carriage destined for him. Deputy Crispi, in the name of all present, energetically protested against this violation of the law, and the insult thus offered to the greatest citizen of Italy.

The General's family and servants had received permission to accompany him, but his son-in-law, Canzio, was the only one who remained with him. Colonel Camazzi was seated in the same compartment, and several carriages filled with bersaglieri and carabinieri preceded and followed that in which the General was confined. Garibaldi left for a destination unknown to us, and this is not the place to say by what feelings we were animated.

We attest the above as the exact and historical truth of what took place.

At Varignano, whither Garibaldi was conveyed from Spezia on the morning of the 5th, he occupies a large and comfortable room, commanding a view of the bay, and also of the Papal prisoners he made at Monte Rotondo. If it were any solace to his captivity, he might, at least up to the 6th inst., observe the movements of 200 or 300 Antibeans, who there awaited return to their own country. He is well treated in all respects, but visitors are not allowed, although his son-in-law, Canzio, and Colonel Bossi, also confined at Varignano, are at liberty to see him when they please. He is described as in good spirits, cheered by the consciousness that he has done his best for the cause to which his life is devoted. He is strictly watched, and not allowed to write or receive letters. The reports of his approaching transfer to Elba, or to Palmajola, a smaller island close to Elba, continue, but the probabilities seem to be that he will be detained for the present at Varignano. There is still talk of bringing him to trial; but that cannot legally be done without the authorisation of the Legislative Chamber, of which he is a member.

In his narrative, entitled "The Last Hours of the Day of Mentana," Dr. Bertani relates the arrival of the French, of which he was first warned by a fire of musketry that made him think immediately of the Chassepot rifle, by reason of the peculiar rapidity and regularity of the sound. It reminded him, he said, of a pendulum clock running down. Soon after five the fire round Mentana slackened, and finally ceased, leaving the 500 men who still occupied the village unmolested until the morning. The French officers told the doctor, who had established a hospital in the best way he could, and passed the night in tending the wounded, that they did this to spare bloodshed, reckoning on quickly taking the place by assault next day. In the morning the handful of Garibaldians found themselves surrounded by the 59th French Regiment of the Line. There was a parley, and the volunteers obtained an honourable capitulation, the officers to retain their arms, with full liberty for them and their men to recross the Italian frontier. The terms proposed by the Garibaldians and accepted were preceded by a declaration that they yielded to the force of the French army. Bertani says:—"The volunteers were declared free, and it was ordered that at a later hour they should be escorted by a French company to Passo Corese, to protect them from the drunken violence of the vile Pontifical Zouaves, whom the French themselves despise. I addressed myself to the first officer I met, and claimed from him protection and aid for the wounded; and I found in the French, truth to tell, brothers in arms, prodigal of such resources as they possessed, and willing to aid us in every way."

INSURGENT ATTACK ON THE CAPITOL, ROME.

The efforts by the insurgents within the walls of Rome appear to have been very feeble, and there is little wonder that the defeated Garibaldians should cry treason and complain of the apathy of the patriots who, had they co-operated more energetically, might have given a different ending to the enterprise. It is declared, however, that the insurgents in the city were so ill-armed and so greatly over-matched by the Pontifical troops that they could effect nothing. At all events they did effect nothing of any importance; all they could do being apparently to keep the Zouaves on the *qui vive*. Various skirmishes, scarcely superior in importance to a street row, took place; but, except the attack made on the Capitol and the explosion of a mine under the barracks, no action followed. These events, the former of which is represented in an Engraving, formed part of what has been called the insurrection of Oct. 22, but the name does not represent the fact. The signal of the explosion, if, indeed, it was intended for a signal, was not responded to, and the discovery previously of depôts of arms, perhaps, contributed to foil the plans of the insurgents. The Zouaves, it is said, were working at the barricades of the gates when the mine burst, so that little damage was done; it was followed by a little fighting in some of the streets, the conflict lasting only about two hours, the attack on the Capitol

being the most determined; several of the insurgents being killed, and only a few of the soldiers. Above one hundred were taken prisoners, and the affair was quickly at an end; the

MILITARY OCCUPATION OF THE CITY

was, in fact, complete, and barricades were erected outside the gates by the garrison very early in the month, for the purpose of at least arresting the Garibaldians at the walls, if they should get so far. The gates of Salara, Maggiore, St. Sebastian, St. Paul, and St. Pancrazio were closed, that the duty of guarding them might not increase the responsibilities of the garrison. Accounts, however, were received of one combat which took place outside the gates, between a greatly superior force of Zouaves and about seventy Italians, who were seeking to make their way into the city. They were said to have been armed only with revolvers, and to have defended themselves till their ammunition was exhausted. All of them were killed or taken prisoners; and amongst the dead was Henry Cairoli, brother of Colonel Benedetti Cairoli, the deputy, and who is a member of the Florence Central Committee. There seems, indeed, to have been little chance from the first for the insurgents within Rome to gain any advantage until an alarm from without should have given them the opportunity of an attack upon the troops, for all the public places were strictly guarded; the Place del Popolo was completely invested with Zouaves, who made it almost a camp; and both soldiers and citizens who represented the Papal cause, and were allowed to carry arms, continually patrolled the quarters which were most completely fortified.

Within Rome the patriotic party was paralysed. It was only on the roads leading thither that the demonstrations were unchecked; and there can be no doubt that this revolution threw up most of the dregs of the population of Florence to the surface. At all events, crime so diminished in that city after the movement had set in that it was announced on one morning, "No offence has been committed in Florence during the last twenty-four hours." Between Orte and Narni numbers of Garibaldians were formed into bands. The volunteers went out sanguine enough; but, since Mentana, they have returned very much crestfallen indeed.

FIRE AT ST. MARY'S CRAY.

A most disastrous fire occurred at St. Mary's Cray a few days ago. The origin of the fire is not known, but a large stack of birch, &c., suddenly burst into flame, and before anything could be done the adjoining-house caught fire. There being no engine on the spot, and one in the neighbourhood having become disabled on its road to the scene of the fire, the flames had uncontrolled power, and quickly spread to both sides of the village street. The inhabitants had (so sudden was the outbreak) scarcely time to escape. One poor woman in the pains of labour was removed through the window on a mattress, and was shortly after delivered of a child. After the fire had raged about an hour an engine from London arrived, when the fire was quickly subdued. Owing to the slight manner in which the houses had been built, the firemen were enabled to pull them down, and so check the advance of the flames, otherwise the whole street and neighbourhood must have been destroyed. Most of the families residing in the destroyed houses are left perfectly destitute, and it was only by the kindness of the paper-making firm in the neighbourhood and others that these poor creatures found a roof to cover them and food to eat. Our Engraving shows but a part of the destruction.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MR. MAPLESON'S autumn season promises to be thoroughly successful. The new prima donna, Mlle. Clara Louise Kellogg, has appeared as Margherita, and has assumed, for the first time in England, the part of Violetta in "La Traviata." Mlle. Titens has been heard in her two celebrated characters of Semiramide and Norma; and Mlle. Sinico has impersonated Lucia. Thus, in one week we have had operas by Gounod, Verdi, Rossini, Bellini, and Donizetti. Nor, because we have named the "first ladies" only, must it be imagined that the part of prima donna in these works has alone been adequately played. In "Semiramide" the honours of the evening were shared with Mlle. Titens by Mme. Trebelli-Bettini, the admirable representative of Arsace. Mlle. Titens, too, was well supported in "Norma" by Mlle. Sinico as Adalgisa. Her Majesty's Theatre is stronger in prima donnas than in tenors; but the tenor music has had a fair amount of justice done to it by Mr. Tom Hohler, Signor Bettini, and the newly-arrived Signor Tombesi; while the baritone and bass music has certainly not suffered in the hands of Mr. Santley, Signor Gassier, and Signor Foli.

Notwithstanding the agreeable talent of Mlle. Sinico, and the true tragic power of Mlle. Titens, the chief attraction at Her Majesty's Theatre just now is the singing and acting of Mlle. Clara Louise Kellogg, who is known to be an American, not only by residence and education, but absolutely by birth. She is, we believe, a native of Carolina; she was born of American parents, and never until the present year left the United States. If Mlle. Kellogg at the second representation of "Faust" confirmed the good impression she had left upon the public at the first, she has achieved a new success altogether in "La Traviata." She gives full development to the sentimental side of the character, and has enough good taste to leave out all the unpleasant details which can fairly be omitted. In the first act Mlle. Kellogg sings the drinking song, and the bravura with which the act closes most brilliantly. Her pathetic singing and acting in the duet of the second act are equally remarkable; but perhaps her greatest triumph of all is in the touching scene which terminated the opera. Mr. Hohler, in the part of Alfredo, sings the air of the second act carefully and with good expression; and Mr. Santley is invariably encoored in old Germon's melodious but monotonous ballad.

A line must suffice to record the fact that a new series of Monday Popular Concerts has been begun. At the concert of next Monday Mme. Arabella Goddard is announced to perform a new book—No. 8—of "songs without words," by Mendelssohn.

The same night that unusual, we might almost say anti-musical, work advertised daily as "Offenbach's most celebrated opera," and entitled in English the "Grand Duchess," is to be produced at Covent Garden.

AUSTRALIAN BEEF.—The following is an extract from a letter, dated Sydney, Aug. 31, 1867:—"Among the many inventions of these times is one for preservation of meat, birds, and fish, in tanks, by freezing apparatus, applied here in the first instance to the manufacture of ice. The agent is ammonia, and its application appears simple and inexpensive. The promoters are sanguine of success in forwarding in very large numbers fresh carcasses to England, and that it may be used for the supply of passengers and ships' crews. Recently I went with a friend to see, and was in the tank, in which were joints, whole carcasses, birds, fish, milk—all in most perfect preservation. Some had been there for months, other parts only a few hours. The meat so frozen is said to be fully equal, when cooked, to any freshly killed. The carcasses in the tank are not separate, but closely packed. There is reason to expect that, ere long, quantities of the surplus stock of these colonies will be exported in this state for supply of distant markets with fresh meat."

GOWN AND TOWN ROW AND BREAD RIOTS AT OXFORD.—Last Saturday night a serious disturbance took place in Oxford. In the morning it was hinted that there would be a bread riot at night, and that the undergraduates were determined to resist it. Up to a quarter past ten the streets were in their usual quietude; but just after that time a performance that had taken place at the Townhall concluded, and a town and gown row ensued immediately, and, after a great deal of fighting and skirmishing, the undergraduates were compelled by the proctors and other officials to return to their respective colleges. Directly this was done the roughs proceeded to the bread establishments of Mr. Alderman Grub, in Queen-street and Corn Market-street, and commenced breaking his windows; but the police, headed by the new Mayor (Alderman Carr) and other city and University authorities, succeeded in arresting nearly a score, who were taken to the University police station, all of whom, with the exception of one, were liberated on their own or other bail. Several college windows were also broken. The Mayor, who was determined to quell the riots, had a narrow escape. While addressing the mob some miscreant threw a stone at him; but, fortunately, instead of hitting his head, passed it and went through a window close by. It was nearly three o'clock before the streets were cleared. The Guards were sent on from Windsor, as further riots were anticipated; but their services were not required.

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